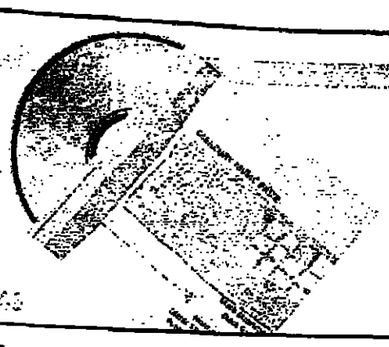
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THE TIMES

30p

No. 65,698 TUESDAY OCTOBER 1 1996



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OCEAN OF HEARTBREAK
Tracey Capstick waves goodbye to her sailor husband
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BEWARE: THEY COULD CULL YOUR CHILD
Libby Purves on a lesson in cynicism
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PLAY THE £50,000 GAME
See how your players are performing
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Cash-for-questions lawyers pull out

Libel battle abandoned by Hamilton

BY FRANCES GIBB, ANDREW PIERCE AND PHILIP WEBSTER

THE Conservative MP Neil Hamilton abandoned his "cash for questions" libel action against *The Guardian* at the last minute yesterday after his lawyers refused to continue acting for him.

The case, in which John Major and Michael Heseltine had been called as defence witnesses, was due to come to trial today. But the renowned libel lawyer Peter Carter-Ruck pulled out after discovering a "conflict of interest" between Mr Hamilton and his co-plaintiff Ian Greer.

Both men engaged new lawyers, but after 48 hours of intensive negotiation, they decided yesterday to drop the case. They also agreed to contribute to *The Guardian's costs in what the newspaper's* editor, Alan Rusbridger, described as "one of the most astonishing legal cave-ins in the history of the law of libel".

Mr Rusbridger said that Mr Hamilton and Mr Greer, a political lobbyist, were making a "substantial contribution" to the paper's estimated £400,000 legal bill, although Mr Hamilton put the figure at "a nominal" £7,500.

Mr Carter-Ruck's firm, which had been working on behalf of both Mr Hamilton and Mr Greer for two years, decided on Friday that it could no longer act in the case after it received a detailed minute of a telephone conversation between Mr Hamilton and Mr Heseltine. Mr Heseltine challenged Mr Hamilton over whether he had ever had any financial links with Mr Greer, and Mr Hamilton said that he had not.

But the minute, taken by the Cabinet Secretary, Sir Robin Butler, was at odds with Mr Greer's version of events — one source close to the proceedings said last night "the difference was the same as the comparison between black and white" — and Mr Carter-Ruck's firm said that it could not continue with the case.

Mr Hamilton and Mr Greer, who face a £300,000 bill from Mr Carter-Ruck, last night insisted that they still believed that they had been libelled and that only the cost of fighting on had led them to settle. Mr Hamilton, who was forced to resign as a trade minister shortly after the telephone conversation with Mr Heseltine, said that he was devastated at having to withdraw.



Hamilton: case has cost him £150,000 so far

Mr Hamilton had to get the law changed to enable him to bring the case in the first place and he said that he would not have done so, had he not been convinced of his innocence of *The Guardian's* charge that he accepted money from the Harrods owner Mohammed Al-Fayed to ask parliamentary questions.

Mr Greer, one of Westminster's best-known and most successful lobbyists, said: "I have had to take a sensible commercial decision on this. I am very disappointed that I am not able to go the whole way, but it is a rather expensive exercise. I totally refute that this decision to withdraw is an admission of the allegations made against me two years ago. This matter has gone on quite long enough and was fast turning into a media circus. I would want to continue on a matter of principle but I have had to take a sensible commercial decision and I am happy that a compromise has been reached."

But Mr Rusbridger said that Mr Hamilton and Mr Greer had "blustered about their innocence for two years" and then offered to drop their case minutes before the deadline. Mr Hamilton had "gone cap in hand to his fellow MPs to fund his action and, as recently as three weeks ago, was vigorously promising to expose journalistic corruption and fantasy. Yet at the court room door both men have *thrown in the towel and paid The Guardian* a substantial contribution to its costs.

"The only possible explanation is that both Hamilton and Greer knew that the evidence *The Guardian* had compiled to defend the case would have blown his action out of the *water and revealed a pattern* of parliamentary sleaze more far-reaching than we had ever imagined.

"*The Guardian* has never doubted the truth of its original story and has refused to be deterred by the repeated attacks on our integrity by Mr *Hamilton, Mr Greer and their* colleagues.

"We would have produced utterly damning evidence of Mr Hamilton and Mr Greer's lack of integrity if the case had proceeded. No doubt that is why they dropped the action."

The Guardian had subpoenaed Mr Major, Mr Heseltine, Sir Robin and the former Chief Whip Richard Ryder to give evidence and all had said that they were willing to answer question on any relevant issues. Had Mr Major appeared, he would have been the first serving Prime Minister to give evidence in court.

A spokesman for Mr Al Fayed said that he had expected to give evidence at the trial and had prepared to do so. He regretted not being able to tell the court about the treatment he alleges at the hands of politicians, which he describes as a "conspiracy".

He said: "He was very happy and very confident about giving evidence. He wanted to tell the judge and jury about the political conspiracy which had affected him over the past 10 years."

Last night's events cast a *fresh shadow over Mr Hamil*ton's parliamentary career, although friends stressed that his constituency officers had been "superb" and "solid as a rock". Conservative Central Office said the case was a private matter between *The Guardian* and Mr Hamilton.

TONY WHITE



Harriet Harman: helped to NEC seat by Blair's grip on party and quotas for women

Forgiving faithful keep Harman on Labour NEC

BY PHILIP WEBSTER

LABOUR yesterday forgave Harriet Harman for her decision to breach policy by sending her son to a grammar school and the subsequent embarrassment that caused Tony Blair.

In a move demonstrating both Mr Blair's grip on his party and the apparent readiness of Labour's new activists to cast off the old taboos, the Shadow Social Security Secretary was voted back on to the ruling national executive.

Ms Harman secured 58,000 votes, down 11,000 on last year. But this was a success that scarcely seemed possible earlier this year when the storm broke over her announcement that she was sending her son to a selective grammar school in Bromley, Kent. Then, Labour MPs openly called for her to be sacked from the Shadow Cabinet, and she was saved only by a passionate appeal from Mr Blair to the Parliamentary Labour Party. He said he was refusing to hand a scalp to the Tories.

She was helped yesterday by party rules that discriminate in favour of women, requiring three of the seven NEC members chosen by the constituency parties to be female. Jack Straw, Shadow Home Secretary, and Ken Livingstone, the left-wing backbencher, each had more votes than Ms Harman but failed to get elected to the executive because of their sex.

Another high-pressure campaign from the leadership just protected Ms Harman when the Shadow Cabinet elections took place in July. She was reelected in the last of the 19 elected places.

But it had been assumed that when party members had their say Ms Harman, a key modernising ally of Mr Blair, would be severely punished.

Instead they backed Mr Blair and Ms Harman. She said: "I am absolutely delighted. It is tremendous support from the party . . . it has been a very difficult year and I feel I can absolutely put it all behind me now."

10p income tax would be aim of Brown's first Budget

BY PHILIP WEBSTER, POLITICAL EDITOR

LABOUR intends to introduce a 10p or 15p bottom rate of income tax as soon as possible, Gordon Brown said yesterday as he set out his strategy to get rid of the poverty trap.

The first cut in the present 20p low rate would be a priority in Mr Brown's maiden Budget, providing the money is there, in what the Shadow Chancellor described as "a people's tax cut for jobs" that would help thousands back to work.

The Labour leadership also promised to reverse any cuts in inheritance or capital gains tax that Kenneth Clarke might make in the Budget next month, and to use the money to cut the bottom rate of income tax. Party officials declined, however, to give any other details of how the low rate could be financed.

Halving the existing 20p rate on earnings up to £3,900 would cost £8.7 billion, but in practice a new bottom rate would almost certainly apply to a much smaller income band. Mr Brown might raise some of the money through a new top rate of 50p for those earning more than £100,000 — something he is known to be considering — but Tony Blair is cautious about any tax rise.

The Labour leader is determined to distance the party from its tax-and-spend past and he will intensify his effort in his conference speech today. He will tell delegates: "Our task is not to stop people being successful but to help them and their families do better. That is the true radical meaning of the Labour party, new and old — not to hold people back, but to help them get on."

In his speech yesterday, Mr Brown highlighted the plight of more than 600,000 families caught in the poverty trap, where any pay rise was often wiped out by new taxes and cuts in benefit. Rejecting suggestions that Labour was trying to outgun the Tories on tax, he said his plan was "to win a far more important battle — the battle against unemployment and poverty".

His aides later said that Mr Brown's speech presaged a serious attempt to ensure that the benefit system never discouraged people from taking work, with the integration of the tax and benefit systems the ultimate, if longer term, goal.

The Conservatives, however, poured scorn on Mr Brown's claims. William Waldegrave, the Chief Secretary to the Treasury, said the 10p rate would mean large tax increases elsewhere — "another example of Labour's age-old three-card trick".



"The spin's on full but nothing seems to be happening"

INSIDE

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Taleban moves to crucial battle

The Taleban students' army pushed north with tanks and artillery, capturing new provinces. They now control more than two-thirds of the Afghanistan, but northern warlords are massing for a counterattack. The worsening weather will be decisive ... Pages 13, 17

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Mubarak to miss peace summit

FROM MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON

PRESIDENT Mubarak of Egypt yesterday refused to attend the emergency Middle East summit opening in Washington today despite personal entreaties by President Clinton and Yassir Arafat, the Palestinian Authority President.

The White House blamed a "scheduling conflict", but Egyptian officials said Mr Mubarak was angry at the hardline attitude of Binyamin Netanyahu, Israel's Prime Minister, and did not believe the summit would be fruitful.

His decision dealt a serious blow to a summit designed to stop the bloodshed in the West Bank and Gaza. Mr Netanyahu and King Husain of Jordan were due in Washington last night. Mr Arafat was expected very early this morning.

Netanyahu anger, page 12

Government cuts are forcing Britain's universities into debt

BY DAVID CHARTER, EDUCATION CORRESPONDENT

MORE than half of Britain's universities, including Cambridge, will be in debt by 2000, vice-chancellors were told yesterday. The number of higher education institutions running at a loss has doubled in a year from 26 to 48 and looks likely to rise to 78 within four years.

The forecasts, by the Higher Education Funding Council, the government quango that distributes public money to universities and colleges, will increase the pressure on vice-chancellors to seek savings through redundancies and to introduce tuition charges.

Older universities among the casualties include Lancaster, which is planning redundancies and has cut spending to head off a predicted £5.8 million shortfall this year.

Universities blame much of their deteriorating financial position on a 3l per cent cut in government grants for equipment and buildings. They also blame "efficiency gains", expected to come from staffing costs, that were announced in last November's Budget. Real-term losses total £300 million this year and £550 million next year.

The Government said it expected universities to seek more funding from the private sector, but vice-chancellors said this was not likely to make up more than about £110 million of the losses. The squeeze has already led them to threaten a £300 entry levy for new students next year if the Chancellor does not restore the cuts this November.

Cambridge's grant for this year was down 4.5 per cent to £86.7 million and it believes inflationary pressures brought the total loss to 7 per cent. Professor Alec Broers, vice-chancellor at Cambridge, said: "If we go on as we are at the moment, with future government funding as it is, we will go into the red by 2000 if we do not find new ways of funding."

A university in deficit, like a company running at a loss, would find it difficult to invest in key developments to maintain its standing. Professor Broer said he was already concerned that British universities could not afford to compete for top-calibre staff and equipment in such areas as micro-electronics.

The funding council paper, seen by *The Times*, does not name any of the country's 116 higher education institutions. It says a small number of *institutions are comparatively* wealthy, which helps to mask the overall picture of cuts faced by the majority. The paper expresses concern that several have "substantial" borrowings.

Trading in Eurotunnel suspended

BY JONATHAN PRYNN TRANSPORT CORRESPONDENT

EUROTUNNEL shares were suspended at 112p yesterday "pending an announcement", raising hopes that the Channel Tunnel operator is close to a refinancing deal with banks.

The Anglo-French company, which has 135,000 British shareholders, is £9 billion in debt and the French courts have threatened to put it into receivership if it cannot reach terms with its creditors.

The deadline for two French-appointed mediators who have been trying to broker a deal ran out last night with no agreement in place. But City sources said the announcement of a settlement, giving the banks 49 per cent control of Eurotunnel in return for writing off up to £1.5 billion of debt, is likely within the next fortnight.

Eurotunnel saved, page 27

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Beneath Labour's pink rinse lurk darker roots

MATTHEW PARRIS
POLITICAL SKETCH

: at the LABOUR'S new vers between the neolithic. Winingle with like struc d pillars, and ramps, k rge from caves. the orat n banished from Red n's focus but an the ink floods eerily in an margins. Spin doe achieved a technical the view from the rence floor is framed in but the area immediately nind the speaker's head is eutral and forms the surround for most television soundbites.

Thus the nation's newswatchers are seeing a different picture from what confronts Labour delegates — each designed to please its target audience best. And in what amounts to a parable of modern Labour, it is impossible to be sure whether the pink bits really are pink or just lit by "mood" spotlighting, a chameleon's dream, changeable at the stage manager's whim.

Electric lecterns rise and fall at the touch of a button. The suspicion grows that if any orator were to speak beyond his allotted time, a trap door would whisk open beneath him, plucking him from the scene. Perhaps debaters who depart from Labour's new line might be zapped by laser, like those electric-blue fly incinerators we see in butchers' shops: 6,000 volts — *fzt!* — and he's gone. A faint smell of singeing suffuses the hall.

That sense of ruthless orthodoxy — consensus by diktat — permeates the whole conference scene. The party's organisational techniques are redolent of the worst excesses of the Zanzibar police. "STAGE MANAGEMENT" says the notice on one door, just beside the platform. The door next to it says "Autocue operations. Strictly no entry." Officials have now banned me from this corridor — "a restricted zone", they say.

The Late Registrations office, located in the Methodist church, triggers memories of Eastern Europe. The public is kept from party officials by a ceiling-high metal grille. Would-be conferencegoers claw at the grille (one, yesterday, in tears) while behind it dozens of officials shuffle paper on desks, one or two of them deigning to attend to the supplicants beyond. Queues stretch into the street. Supplicants whisper advice to each other about which officials are merciful and which are brutes. Pinned to the walls are admonitory notices.

Delegates and reporters are issued with a range of photopasses in subtly differing shades, bearing a variety of numbers like H2 or EK5 in a small box in one corner but otherwise indistinguishable. Passholders are not informed what these codes signify. Maybe some of us are being marked out for surveillance by the plainclothes officials who mingle with the crowd. In their minds (but nobody else's) exist maps in which the entire Winter Gardens is divided into zones, access to which depends upon the hue and code of your pass. From time to time the grim-faced creatures round on some innocent whose code is inappropriate and denounce him, with unsmiling glee, as an intruder.

Flanked by a new-look Clare Short resembling Evita Peron relaunched in Clinique, Gordon Brown spoke yesterday with humanity and intelligence, but to a strangely sour Winter Gardens. For Labour, the nature of the orthodoxy changes but not the habit of orthodoxy. The party is getting less silly but not any nicer.

Peter Stothard, page 16
Leading article, page 17

Loyalist ceasefire may not survive UDA withdrawal

BY NICHOLAS WATT, CHIEF IRELAND CORRESPONDENT

THE loyalist ceasefire was dealt a near-fatal blow last night when prisoners from the terrorist Ulster Defence Association withdrew their support from the peace process.

In the most serious threat to the ceasefire, which is due to celebrate its second anniversary this month, the inmates said they had acted because the IRA was using the peace process to step up its terrorist campaign. John White, the prisons spokesman of the Ulster Democratic Party, the political wing of the UDA, said last night that the prisoners' decision could have "dire consequences" for the loyalist ceasefire.

Mr White, who was speaking after meeting the inmates at the Maze prison outside Belfast, said: "They said it quite clearly to us, and we had a very intense discussion on the issue, that they are going to withdraw their support from the peace process because they don't see it going anywhere. This is causing us great concern because of the very important role the prisoners played in brokering the ceasefire."

Mr White, who is a former UDA prisoner, said that the prisoners' decision could sway loyalist paramilitaries who are not in prison. He added: "This is the most critical point we have come to and I am deeply concerned."

However, Mr White insisted that he would maintain his support for the ceasefire. "We will endeavour to persevere and try and convince loyalist paramilitaries not to be provoked by IRA violence."

The announcement by the prisoners from the UDA, one of two main loyalist terrorist groups, represents a major challenge to the ceasefire declared in October 1994 by the Combined Loyalist Military Command. It could not have been declared without their support.

A leading UDA prisoner said that inmates were frustrated that the Government had failed to reward them for maintaining their support for the loyalist ceasefire in the face of renewed IRA violence. The prisoners also expressed frustration that London and Dublin were still going out of their way to allow Sinn Fein to join the multiparty talks despite the IRA's decision to end its ceasefire.

Dissident republican terrorists were blamed yesterday for planting 250lb of explosives in a car in central Belfast. The Irish Continuity Army, a splinter group, gave a telephone warning about the bomb, which was blown up by the Army on Sunday. A senior security source said that the homemade explosives would have caused massive damage around College Square North.

☐ David Trimble, the leader of the Ulster Unionists, accused John Major yesterday of making conciliatory gestures to Sinn Fein in spite of the IRA's attempts to bomb London. The MP for Upper Bann said the Government had adopted a Dublin agenda in its latest proposals for disarming terrorists. Mr Trimble, who was speaking in Belfast as his party rejected new Anglo-Irish proposals on decommissioning, insisted that the IRA would have to disarm before Sinn Fein could join full scale talks.

☐ Roman Catholic parishioners in Londonderry raised £4,000 over the weekend in impromptu collections for a neighbouring Protestant church which was extensively damaged by republican arsonists on Friday. The Catholics at St Eugene's Cathedral organised the collections for Christ Church, a Church of Ireland building.

LLOYD WRIGHT/MERCURY PRESS



A protester marking the anniversary of dockers' sacking is removed by police

Dock rally ends in arrests

TWO police officers were injured and 41 people arrested during clashes on a dock picket line yesterday. More than 300 protesters had gathered outside Liverpool Freeport at Seaforth to mark the first anniversary of the sacking of 329 dockers by the Mersey Docks and Harbour Company. The men were locked out after refusing to cross an unofficial picket line set up by 80 redundant colleagues from another stevedoring company. Yesterday's actions marked the end of a three-day campaign in which the dockers were joined by activists from other fringe political groups.

Some 17 protesters used ropes to clamber to the roof of the Mersey Docks and Harbour Company headquarters, while another 12 scaled gantries on the container site. But the bulk of the group stood on a pavement outside the gates behind a banner with the slogan "Reclaim Our Port — Victory to the Dockers". They made a series of charges towards the dock gates and into the road in attempts to block traffic, beating drums and whooping as they struggled with police who brought in mounted officers, dog handlers to try to contain them. One officer was wounded by a sharp instrument. Last night as the protesters were being escorted back to their coaches in Bootle, further trouble erupted, with one officer going to hospital with a head injury after being hit by a brick.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Schools claim Labour misled on cooperation

Independent schools have accused Labour of misleading them for a year with empty promises of co-operation. Head teachers of leading schools said the party was also misleading the public with "bogus" alternative uses for Government money currently spent subsidising places in their classrooms. The attack marked a departure from months of low key behind-the-scenes talks between senior Labour figures and the Headmasters and Headmistresses Conference, which represents 250 top independent schools and was meeting in Glasgow yesterday.

Radiation hitch shuts atom plant

A reprocessing plant at the Dounreay nuclear complex in Scotland has been shut down after waste water was found with slightly more radioactivity than expected. Officials said that there had been no danger to workforce or public and the radiation involved was within authorised limits.

£100m cocaine haul from trawler

Two Englishmen and a Venezualan woman were being questioned by Irish police yesterday after more than £100 million of cocaine, thought to have been destined for Britain and Denmark, was recovered in Cork from the *Sea Mist*, a converted 60ft Norwegian trawler.

Mother dies in family car crash

A mother died and her husband and daugher are on life-support machines after their hire car crashed into a coach on Lanzarote. Carol Shaw, from Rochdale, died instantly and Tony and Sarah, 11, are seriously ill but stable. David Shaw, 4, suffered a broken arm and is being flown home.

Man arrested after stables blaze

A man who raised the alarm after fire broke out at a racing stables last month, killing four horses, was arrested yesterday on suspicion of arson. Brian Simpson, 43, who lives next door to the stables at Barbury Castle, Wiltshire, spent three days in hospital suffering from smoke inhalation.

Phoenix spy plane deal agreed

The Ministry of Defence agreed yesterday to buy the Phoenix, an unmanned British-made spy plane for the Army which will cost £250 million and be nine years late when it comes into service in 1998, after GEC-Marconi, the contractor, resolved technical problems.

Police officer claims discrimination

Scotland Yard's Black Police Association chairman is taking the Metropolitan Police to an industrial tribunal alleging racial discrimination over his 24-year career. Detective Inspector David Michael, 42, based at Southwark, attends a preliminary hearing tomorrow.

Head jailed for sex assaults on girls

A headmaster who indecently assaulted girl pupils over a 26-year period was sent to prison for 18 months after admitting 11 specimen charges. Kenneth Watson, 46, of Washington, Tyne and Wear, assaulted pupils at three schools in South Tyneside where he worked from the 1970s.

Post haste for Christmas

Tomorrow is the recommended last posting date for surface Christmas mail to Australia, New Zealand and many other southern hemisphere countries. Last dates for the rest of the world fall throughout October and early November, and for British Forces overseas on December 2.

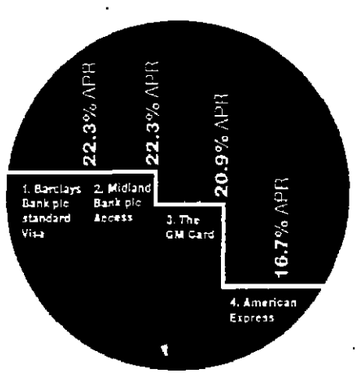
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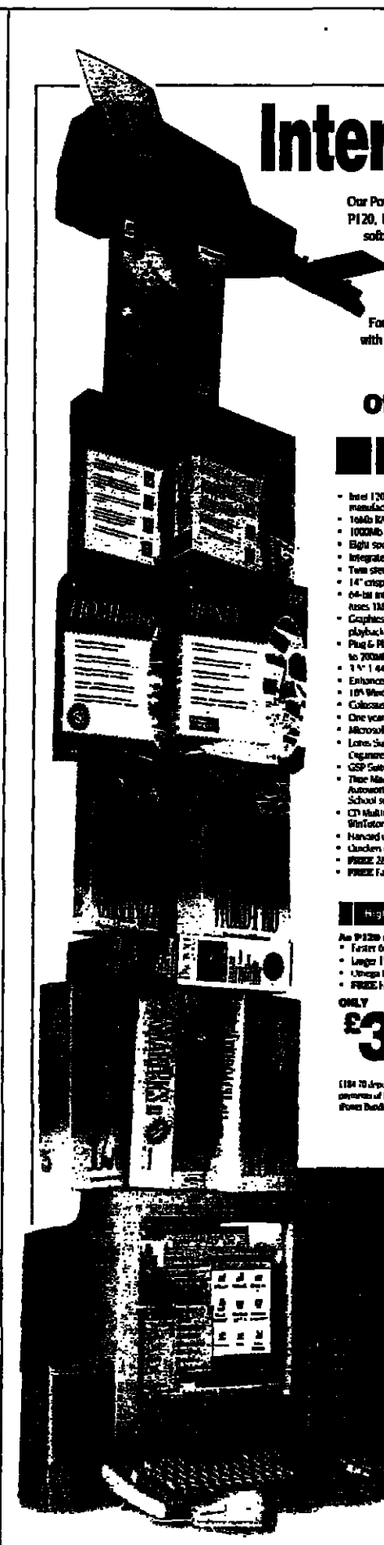
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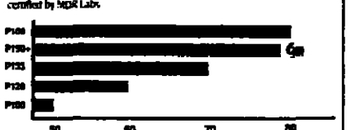
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Confidante who predicted a tall, dark, handsome man gives details of alleged liaisons

Duchess may take legal action over intimate tapes

By Emma Wilkins

THE Duchess of York is considering legal action over tape recordings of conversations between herself and a self-styled clairvoyant in which she allegedly discusses her lovers, her money problems and her hope that the entire Royal Family will shortly drop dead.

The tape recordings of sessions in which she unburdened herself to Vasso Kortesis, a fortune teller and confidante of the Duchess for six years, were yesterday made available to callers to a premium-rate telephone line by the *Daily Mirror*.

Mrs Kortesis — who calls herself Madame Vasso — has published a book based on the private conversations which purport to reveal all about the Duchess's colourful private life. It is the second time in a week that the Duchess has consulted her lawyers over a book. Last week she won an extention to a High Court injunction banning an American from revealing details of her affair with John Bryan, her former financial adviser.

Mrs Kortesis, who was born in Greece and now lives in Islington, north London, spent six years "counselling" the Duchess, and in recent years took the precaution of taping their sessions. The book and taped conversations, including a discussion between Mrs Kortesis and the Duke of York, are being promoted in the *Daily Mirror*. Its readers can dial a telephone number costing 39p a minute cheap rate, or 49p at other times, and listen to a tape recording of the Duke telling Mrs Kortesis that he hopes to solve his marital problems.

The Duke, who was not aware that his remarks were being recorded, is "too busy" to take action against the newspaper but his advisers may consider writing to the Press Complaints Commission to complain, according to one royal aide.

Mrs Kortesis, who began her career charging £10 for a tarot card reading on a stall at Islington market, put her prices up to £50 soon after the Duchess's first visit to her house in 1989.

Mrs Kortesis's predictions include a suggestion that the Duchess will meet a stranger. He will be tall, dark and handsome, she promises.

The Duchess, who is aghast at the revelations concerning her sex life, sometimes telephoned Mrs Kortesis in the middle of the night asking her to gaze into the future and give her some advice. Legal action against Mrs Kortesis, her publisher John Blake and the *Daily Mirror* are being considered as options, friends of the Duchess said.

"It's been a very difficult day but Sarah is amazingly strong in the face of everything," one friend said.

The Duchess's case against a book written by Allan Starkie, a friend of John Bryan, is due to be heard at the High Court in London next week. The Duchess has already said she is prepared to give evidence to support her case that the book should be banned in Britain.

A spokesman for Buckingham Palace said: "These latest claims are a matter for the Duchess and her legal advisers. The Duke has a very busy job and doesn't want to get involved in the subject of old tape recordings."

During her conversations with Mrs Kortesis, the Duchess sometimes sat under a blue plastic pyramid which is designed to encourage relaxation. The Duchess used numbers to refer to her men friends with the Duke as number two and her former lover Mr Bryan as number three. The Duchess's number one man is Steve Wyatt, an American businessman who swept her off her feet in 1989.

The pair had a sexual relationship while the Duchess was five months' pregnant with Princess Eugenie, according to Mrs Kortesis's book. One subsequent liaison allegedly took place under cover of darkness in the garden at Sunninghill Park, the Yorks' marital home.

The Duchess, who refers to her sister-in-law Diana, Princess of Wales as "Blondie" speculates that some terrible fate may befall the Prince of Wales. Mrs Kortesis, who appears keen to recruit the Princess as a client, readily agrees — claiming the disaster will be a huge one.

The Duchess frequently talks of her lack of money which she refers to as "chips", "potato chips" or "potatoes".

The Queen features in the discussions when Mrs Kortesis suggests that the Duchess should ask the Duke to approach his mother about his former wife's cash-flow problems.

The Duchess refers to her own father, Major Ronald Ferguson, as a "madman" and claims he has betrayed her by writing his life story.

The Duchess, whose autobiography is due to be published later this year, claims that her marriage collapsed because she felt neglected by the Duke who was often away at sea with the Royal Navy.

The Press Complaints Commission said yesterday that it had not received any complaints about the *Daily Mirror's* coverage.



The Duchess of York with her personal trainer at Wentworth Golf Club Health Centre, Surrey, yesterday. Friends said she was being "amazingly strong"



Vasso Kortesis — "Madame Vasso" — under the blue plastic pyramid designed to aid relaxation

Giggles as the clairvoyant is told: 'I want the royals dead'

THE Duchess's alleged conversations with the fortune teller disclose an unhappy woman weighed down by family and financial worries. During one she asks Vasso Kortesis to tell her about the future health of the Royal Family.

She says: "I want to see deaths. I want to know what is happening."

Mrs Kortesis: "Which one do you want to die?"

The Duchess: "The whole lot."

Mrs Kortesis: "No, you're not like that."

The Duchess: "No, but there must be deaths around." (They giggle).

The clairvoyant warns the Duchess that she is being used. The Duchess replies: "I don't give a s**t, to be honest with you. I'm so tired. I couldn't care less any more about anything. I'm just going to give up quietly now."

The Duchess adds that she feels stressed: "I feel like I've got a 10-tonne truck on my head. You're not pressure, though. You're wonderful. You're a relief from the pressure."

The Duchess goes on to describe the elements of her life causing stress. She refers to other members of her circle by number: Steve Wyatt, the American businessman, is Number 1; the Duke of York, Number 2; John Bryan, her financial adviser, Number 3. Diana, Princess of Wales is known as Blondie or D.

The Duchess says: "The pressure's too big for anyone to bear."

Mrs Kortesis: "Why, what's happened?"

The Duchess: "Nothing's happened. That's just it."

Mrs Kortesis: "Pressure from where?"

The Duchess: "Pressure from everywhere. Pressure from Number 3, pressure from money, pressure from the bank, pressure from life. Also, I'm waiting for something big to happen. You know what we said? That Number 2's brother might not make it. Well, if that happened it might release me a bit."

Mrs Kortesis: "What do you mean? Your brother-in-law?"

The Duchess: "Yes, well, remember you said he might not be able to go on much longer. That was your message to Blondie, that he was going to have a problem, a big problem. Although we shouldn't mention it, that he might not go on for much longer in this life."

Mrs Kortesis: "How do you know?"

The Duchess: "Hah! Because she told me."

Mrs Kortesis: "Who?"

Duchess: "Blondie. She said she thinks that. I told her that the reason you kept trying to get hold of her was to give her that message. She said, 'Well, that's amazing.' I said, 'Look, my little Greek friend is dead-on accurate and you just have to listen. But if you won't talk to her' — and she won't — 'then she has to tell me to tell you.'"

The Duchess frequently talks about her financial troubles, referring to money as "the chips" or potatoes.

At one point she says: "The chips, they're nowhere to be seen. It's really bad now."

The Duchess again: "I've been working flat out. The chips, the chips. They still aren't through . . ."

Later: "It's been five years now and my overdraft is up to £2 million."

Mrs Kortesis: "That's a telephone number."

In another conversation the Duchess talks about her father, Major Ronald Ferguson.

Mrs Kortesis: "I think he's a madman."

Duchess: "I think he is a madman, yes."

The Duchess talks of why her father published his life story: "He needs the money, so he had to sell his daughter, which I find just monstrous."

Salvation Army gave £6m to 'poppycock' investment

By Michael Horsnell

A FINANCIAL consultant was accused yesterday of plundering £1.2 million from naive officials at the Salvation Army to pay off debts and buy himself a house and car.

Stuart Ford, 45, a former soldier with no financial qualifications, persuaded the charity to invest £6.6 million in a "poppycock" scheme to buy and sell standby letters of credit, Southwark Crown Court was told. He "put his hands into the charity's pocket" after hopes of becoming a millionaire out of his dealings began to fade.

The jury was told the case that involved a "rather murky" Egyptian-born banker, secret dealings with an overseas bank, and "cast iron" promises of massive profits which the Salvation Army wanted to use to refurbish its string of hostels. The Army was described in court as naive to have trusted Mr Ford.

Mr Ford promised that the Army would double its money in a year, but not a single purchase was ever made. Jeremy Roberts, QC, for the prosecution, said of the deal: "It seems a bit too good to be true, but actually it was poppycock. It was poppycock Mr Ford himself had been fed by other people who led him to believe this was a splendid scheme. There is no doubt he believed in this himself and he in turn convinced the Salvation Army. It may be they were rather naive to believe this. Maybe it was a pity they hadn't appointed somebody better qualified than Mr Ford to advise them on their investments."

Mr Ford, who set up the Birmingham-based financial consultancy of Tilen Securities, registered in Panama, pleads not guilty to 23 specimen charges of theft between August and December 1992.

Mr Roberts told the jury: "He had enormous debts he couldn't pay, several court judgments against him and he was unable to meet his creditors. He was in imminent danger of being put out of business."

He was relying heavily on the success of the scheme to extricate himself. When neither trading nor profits materialised he helped himself to the money.

Mr Roberts alleged that Mr Ford first misappropriated £800,000, which he used to pay off his existing debts and help himself to a better lifestyle. Later he took another £400,000 to make a loan to other clients without the knowledge of the Army for which he awarded himself an arrangement fee of £100,000.

"No doubt when he took the money for his own use he hoped to be able to put it back before the misappropriation was discovered," said Mr Roberts. "Unfortunately, as tends to happen when people do something like this, the truth came out before he had been able to put back any of the missing money." He added: "He was the sort of man for whom the big deal coming up was always just around the corner."

Mr Roberts said: "There are a lot of sharks and rogues in the financial world and it may be they saw Mr Ford and the Salvation Army coming.

The trial continues.



Ford: his next deal was always round the corner

Loan turned down over pregnancy

By Caroline Merrell

THE Yorkshire Building Society has paid £4,000 in a sex discrimination claim because it refused to lend money to a pregnant woman. It paid £2,000 towards the costs of the case bought by the Equal Opportunities Commission.

Susan Marshall, a primary school teacher from London, applied for a mortgage with the Yorkshire at the beginning of last year. Mrs Marshall discovered she was pregnant while in the process of applying for the loan.

The society turned her down because it said it could not take into account her income while she was on maternity leave, despite her intention to return to work. Mrs Marshall and her husband eventually obtained funds from another lender but the Yorkshire's decision to turn down their application meant the Marshalls were unable to move into their new home before the baby was born, and Mrs Marshall was not able to have her baby in London as she had planned.

The Yorkshire said it was trying to operate a prudent lending policy, pointing out that circumstances may have caused Mrs Marshall not to return to work. The EOC said that according to its research, 90 per cent of women returned to work after maternity leave.

Eton to make killing in big game

By John Shaw and Alan Hamilton

THE big game trophies, stuffed birds and dinosaur fossils that once fascinated generations of Eton schoolboys are about to be swept away as the college's natural history museum bows to the changed environment of the 1990s.

The head of a Bengal tiger, a pair of lions' heads mounted in glass cases, a stuffed sea eagle and a mounted gorilla are among exhibits to be auctioned later this month, and are expected to fetch up to £40,000.

Many of the animals were shot by Old Etonians who graduated to running the empire but retained a soft spot for their *alma mater*. The money will go towards refurbishing the museum, which was in danger of closing until Dr David Smith, a retired Eton biology teacher, took over as its curator.

"Generations of Eton schoolboys have learnt their biology from the museum," Dr Smith said yesterday. "But in the past the emphasis of teaching was on anatomy, classification and the collecting of specimens. Now biology means genetics, ecology and evolution."

One of Eton's greatest big game shots, and the museum's most prominent benefactor, was A. E. Leatham, who left the school in the closing years of the nineteenth century, shot his way through most of the British empire, and published his memoirs under the title *Sport In Five Continents*. He sent the museum a giraffe from Africa, several rare red deer from New Zealand, various eland and impala, and a huge stuffed tarpon fish from Florida. Most of Leatham's donations will be sold, but the museum is keeping his stuffed and mounted Ichang tufted deer, shot in a remote region of China in 1903 and the first example of its species ever to be shown in a western museum.

Begun in 1850, the collection had become a time warp, virtually unchanged since it opened on its present site in the college grounds in 1889. Until recently the walls were hung with more than 300 big game trophies, and glass cases housed 160 stuffed birds and nearly 3,000 of their eggs.

The auction at Bonhams on October 23 is likely to prove popular with collectors. A Bengal tiger's head may be bought for less than £1,000, a pair of lions for £2,500, and a snow leopard in a glass case for about £3,000, according to catalogue estimates.

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Public Record Office lifts the veil on the role of some of Britain's suspected traitors

Wodehouse 'was not disloyal, but simply a vain fool'

BY VALERIE ELLIOTT, WHITEHALL CORRESPONDENT

P.G. WODEHOUSE is portrayed as a vain fool rather than a traitor in secret government files released yesterday by the Public Record Office. The author, who lived in France and was interned by the Germans during the Second World War, aroused widespread ire for making five broadcasts for an American company at that time.

The broadcasts were largely innocuous, not strongly pro-German but containing whimsical descriptions of Wodehouse's internment. In one he referred to the Wehrmacht as "a fine body of men", a phrase frequently recalled by those seeking to prove he was pro-German but which was, in the context, a facetious irony. George Orwell, writing in defence of Wodehouse, said the general thrust of the broadcasts had been that he "had not been ill-treated and bore no malice".

Wodehouse and his wife, Edith, lived in Le Touquet, northern France. They twice tried to escape the German advance (they were thwarted by broken-down vehicles) and remained as foreigners under observation during the German occupation. Wodehouse was subject to a 9pm curfew, but seems to have entertained senior German officers in his home.

There is evidence from the documents that the Wodehouses received frequent payments from German officials between 1941 and 1944. That seemed to be circumstantial evidence to brand Wodehouse a traitor but insufficient to ensure a conviction in a jury trial. Correspondence disclosed yesterday shows that government opinion was divided over the broadcasts from Germany and that ministers and the authorities conspired to keep the novelist from returning to Britain, fearing an embarrassing political backlash.

One official report to Herbert Morrison, the Home Secretary, described Wodehouse as "a silly ass and a selfish ass but there seems no point in trying to charge such an ass with treason". The report described Wodehouse as a person "without political sense, who lives in a world of his own, and is only interested in creating humorous characters and incidents to please himself and his book-buying public".

The broadcasts had provoked outrage in Britain and Wodehouse never returned after the war, living instead in America until his death in 1975 at the age of 93. He died 45 days after he was awarded a knighthood in the New Year Honours List in 1975. He became Sir Pelham Grenville Wodehouse in a largely symbolic gesture of reconciliation but died before the honour could be officially conferred.

When Wodehouse was released from internment before the end of the war there were fears that he might wish to return to England and wreak political havoc. But one senior official wrote: "If the rat has enough intelligence to leave the sinking ship, I should suspect he must have enough intelligence not to put himself within the jaws of the British mastiff."

Wodehouse, however, is given a strong defence in the documents by Freddie Krauff, an Austrian prisoner-of-war in Britain, who said he had heard first hand the German plan for Wodehouse to be used for propaganda purposes. Even though the novelist had made five broadcasts, Krauff said he had refused to continue: "Mrs Wodehouse told me one day that her husband had broadcast in Germany and made a very bad impression in England. He had only been interested to give English listeners a description of life in an internment camp and had never thought that this might be taken as pro-German propaganda. The moment she heard of these broadcasts she had begged him to stop at once."

On his release from internment the Wodehouses were put up at the sumptuous Hotel Bristol in Paris, which housed the diplomatic corps. Alfred Duff-Cooper, the newly arrived British ambassador to Paris, was so concerned about rubbing shoulders with the Wodehouses that he informed David Petrie, the head of MI5.

The generally low opinion of the Wodehouses emerged in particular during the formal MI5 investigation by Major E. J. P. Cussem, who concluded that Wodehouse was lacking in worldly wisdom. He summed up that Wodehouse was "very susceptible to any form of flattery".

Major Cussem believed Wodehouse had just made the best of the opportunities that had been allowed him by the authorities. He had even been allowed a typewriter that had been rented for the purpose. It was an officer, Buchelt, who suggested that Wodehouse should broadcast to the Americans. The suggestion was followed up by Werner Plack, a German information ministry official who met Wodehouse at the Hotel Adlen in Berlin.

Harry W. Flannery, the US radio reporter, noted: "In making that proposal Plack showed he knew his man, he knew that Wodehouse made fun of the English and that he was still living in that period about which he wrote."

But Wodehouse insisted to MI5 that his broadcasts — for which he was paid 250 marks — were to repay the kindness of American fans. He told Cussem: "I realised what a hideous mistake I had made and I have been trying for an opportunity ever since of putting myself right."

Cussem left the Wodehouses at the Hotel Bristol in the charge of Major Malcolm Muggeridge, of the Intelligence Corps, and urged Wodehouse to give no interviews.

MI5 knew the Germans paid the bills at the Hotel Bristol and were intrigued by sporadic payments to Mrs Wodehouse during 1944. She received 400,000 francs described as "special payment" or "travel expenses" in official German accounts. MI5 said they may have been legitimate but "it must be cleared up". There is no explanation for the payments in yesterday's secret files.

Leading article, page 17



Wodehouse: insisted to MI5 that his broadcasts were to repay the kindness of American fans

'Love affair' led to cell in the Tower

THE last man to be imprisoned in the Tower of London claimed to have developed pro-German sympathies after falling in love with a young German woman, but later said the story was made up.

In 1933 Norman Baillie-Stewart sold information to German agents for £90 and during the Second World War became the first person to make "Germany calling" broadcasts.

He committed the first treason while a lieutenant in the Seaforth Highlanders and was detained in the Tower, where visitors and other soldiers watched him exercising in full uniform, kilt swinging as he marched. From there he was sent to Maidstone prison. Baillie-Stewart refused to name his German contacts but letters from a Marie Louise were read out at his trial.

The released papers say that later he told his mother he had given the Germans useless information in an attempt to be hired by British Intelligence, and that Marie Louise was the codename of a male German agent.

After his release he went to Germany. During the Second World War he made the propaganda broadcasts, in which he was succeeded by William Joyce, who was subsequently executed. Baillie-Stewart was jailed for five years. He died in a Dublin bar in 1966.

Mysterious foreign donations funded Moseley's Black Shirts



Moseley: refused to divulge where money came from

BY IAN MURRAY

SIR OSWALD MOSELEY'S Black Shirt movement was entirely funded from overseas, the papers released yesterday disclose.

Between 1934 and 1935, £164,000 in dollars and French and Swiss francs and German marks, was paid into an account opened at the Westminster Bank's Charing Cross branch in London by three of Moseley's close associates. The money was then transferred into the account of the British Union of Fascists and was sufficient to pay their entire expenses for the period.

The report of the four-day closed trial of Moseley after he was detained and interned in May 1940 shows that he refused to divulge where the money came from. The account was discovered by Scotland Yard detectives.

George Churchill, secretary of the advisory committee for the Home Office, said in his report that "as leader responsible for policy, Moseley said he should refrain from acquiring knowledge of the sources from which his financial support came". Churchill was highly sceptical about Moseley's claim that the donations were anonymous. He felt that this "conspiracy of concealment" was part of an attempt by Moseley to pretend he owed nothing to foreign influences: he was aware that to attract British support he had to conceal such connections.

Support for Moseley was widespread and came from all social classes. A document shows the growing concern of Lord Trenchard, Metropolitan Police Commissioner, to see legislation which would stop the Black Shirts holding military-style rallies.

Some 28 meetings are listed, nearly all ending in violent clashes between Fascists and Communists. In Newcastle in 1934, one meeting ended when "both sides used pieces from the platform to hit each other". Lord Trenchard said Communists always attacked Fascists, never the other way round, but wearing black shirts was "abnormal provocation".

In 1934, MI5 was told to extend its operations to cover the Fascists and was given one officer and two clerks but insufficient money to begin surveillance for six months.

After Moseley's detention in May 1940, an anonymous letter delivered to Downing Street said: "Release Moseley, and let Englishmen have a British peace that you and your Government could never give. You have been warned."

But as time went by, Moseley's support and health dwindled. In November 1941 he met his wife, Diana, who had been interned in Holloway at the same time as him. Their meeting in the High Court was in a libel action against the *Daily Mirror* for claiming that, as Fascists, they were given special treatment in prison. The *Mirror* conceded the case after Moseley complained that in Brixton prison he had to lie on planks infested with bugs and was unable to eat the food.

His failing health led Herbert Morrison, the Home Secretary, to agree to their release at the end of 1944. More petitions calling for Moseley to be sent back to prison were sent than those that had called for him to be released. Morrison feared, however, that Moseley might die in prison and become a martyr.

When Special Branch surveillance of the couple ended they were living near Newbury in Berkshire. Moseley travelled into Newbury only to have his hair cut. The nearest communist branch was so far away that its members decided not to demonstrate because it was too far to walk.

After the war, Moseley began disseminating Fascist propaganda again but, in an answer in Parliament, Mr Morrison said that as long as he did not break the criminal law, there was no reason or way to stop him.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Hammer not linked to killings

Tests on a hammer found near where Lin Russell and her daughter Megan, 6, were killed in Chillenden, Kent, have proved that it was not the murder weapon. The hammer was found near the spot where a bloodstained swimming bag belonging to Megan and her sister Josephine, 9, had been left. Police had been told where to look by villagers who said the site had been spelt out on a ouija board. Police believe it may have been a hoax.

Nurses to strike

Nurses, porters and other Unison members at three London teaching hospitals have voted to strike over pay. The planned stoppages will affect the Middlesex, University College and Elizabeth Garrett Anderson hospitals.

Midwives' leader

A former nurse has been appointed general secretary of the Royal College of Midwives. Jamaican-born Karlene Davis, who has been deputy general secretary for the past two years, will take up her new post in the new year.

Piped aboard

Sir Angus Stirling, the former Director-General of the National Trust, will be chairman of a trust to run the Royal Naval College in Greenwich, southeast London. Admiral Sir Benjamin Bathurst will be a trustee.

Sam rescues jobs

Children's favourite Fireman Sam is taking 100 new jobs to a former pit village. His fictional Welsh home of Pontypandy is being brought to life in a £4 million theme park near Tonyrefail, Mid Glamorgan.

Loughlin funeral

Jodi Loughlin, 6, and her brother Tom, 4, who drowned on a Norfolk beach, were cremated after a funeral service at the church of St John the Evangelist near the family home in Upper Norwood, south London.

RAF drug jailing

An RAF technician, Simon Downs, 27, who admitted selling and possessing amphetamine and possessing cannabis at RAF Wittering, the Harrier base in Lincolnshire, was jailed for eight months by a court martial.

New departure

The British Museum has opened a shop in the departure lounge at Heathrow airport's terminal four. The shop, which will sell replicas of its exhibits, is the first to be opened by the museum outside its own precincts.

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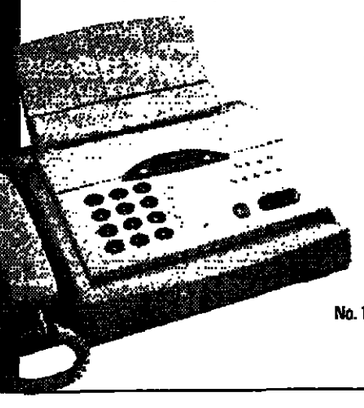
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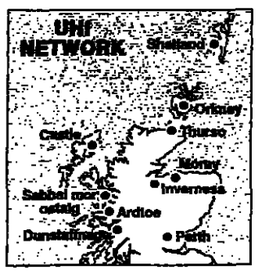
Lottery powers electronic campus for Highlands

BY SHIRLEY ENGLISH

A CENTURY-OLD plan to establish a University of the Highlands and Islands moved a step closer yesterday with the announcement of a £33.35 million grant — the biggest ever award for Scotland — from the Millennium Commission. The lottery grant means that the £86 million project now looks certain to proceed.

Val MacIver, chairman of the University of the Highlands and Islands (UHI) steering group, said: "This is an historic moment. The dream is a big step closer to becoming a reality."

Scotland's 14th university will be the first "electronic campus" of its kind in Britain, linking 11 existing colleges by computer and video conferencing. Recent economic studies predict that the university would boost the local economy — one of the poorest in Europe — by £70 million a year and create 800 jobs.



The idea for the university was suggested more than 100 years ago and came closest to fruition in the 1960s during competition between Inverness and Stirling, which Stirling won.

The university will not have a centralised headquarters. Responsibility for administration is likely to be divided between 11 existing colleges, some of which lie as far as 450 miles apart.

It will serve an area larger than Belgium and Wales and encompassing one-sixth of Britain's land mass.

Video conferencing means that students in Shetland will be able to take part in seminars in Argyll via TV and computer. The application for university status will be made early in the next century.

When the UHI eventually opens it will cater for 5,000 full-time higher education students drawn primarily from the locality, but also from elsewhere in Britain and abroad. It will offer a broad spectrum of degree courses but will capitalise on local strengths in environmental and cultural studies.

Highlands and Islands Enterprise, which is co-ordinating the project, is looking for investment from Europe, local authorities, the Government and the private sector to meet the remaining £56 million needed for the project. It estimates that the lottery money will trigger total investment of at least £100 million over the next five years, providing the UHI with high-tech communications facilities, libraries and major capital investment at each campus site.

'Daft' maths fools recruits

BY DAVID CHARTER

SCHOOL-LEAVERS could not spot "daft" answers to sums because they relied too much on calculators, according to a survey of leading employers and their staff. Companies and employees will both call for better mental arithmetic training at school in the report for government curriculum advisers, due to be published next month.

The main concern of the 43 leading employers, including Sainsbury, NatWest and the Army, was that recruits could no longer sensibly "guesstimate" answers to mathematical problems. They simply accepted solutions which were clearly wrong by a factor of ten or 100.

Employers said trigonometry and algebra had been a waste of time because they did not have real-life applications. They would far rather pupils spent their time practising mental calculations.

The School Curriculum and Assessment Authority, which commissioned the research from the University of Exeter, said it discovered numeracy was down the list of employers' demands behind literacy and skills such as teamworking and communication.

It said a number of measures were being introduced to tackle the issues, including more questions needing estimates and more non-calculator tests. For the first time next summer, schools will be able to volunteer for a 20-minute mental arithmetic test for 11 and 14-year-olds, which will become compulsory in 1998.

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Widow seeks court backing to have baby by dead husband

BY FRANCES GIBB, LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

A mother's decision to defy doctors and not allow her baby to have a liver transplant would mean the child would die, a lawyer representing a health authority told the Court of Appeal yesterday. The mother is appealing against a ruling that she return to Britain with her baby for the operation. The hearing continues.

A WOMAN who wants to have a baby using her dead husband's sperm appealed yesterday to be able to carry out his wishes, as medical experts argued over the ethics of the case.

In the first court action of its kind in Britain, the 30-year-old woman will go to the High Court in London tomorrow seeking permission to use the sperm for artificial insemination. The sperm was taken while her husband was in a coma on a life-support machine. One sample was taken when he was clinically dead.

The woman said yesterday that she and her husband had been trying to have a child when he contracted the bacterial meningitis that caused his death in March last year. "We had a life planned. We had decided exactly what we wanted," she told *BBC Breakfast News*. "I know what his feelings were. I lost my husband ... But I didn't lose the ability to have his child. That is what I'm fighting for. I want the rest of my life back."

She has been refused permission by the Human Fertilisation and Embryology Authority because she does not have her husband's written consent, as required by law. Doctors had mixed views about the case with many expressing sympathy for the woman while saying that the law had to be adhered to.

Dr Stella Lowry, of the British Medical Association, said: "We understand completely that she has effectively got the consent of her husband. But we also recognise that the law was created to make sure that doctors make the right medical use of the new technologies available. We welcome the opportunity for the courts to decide on the interpretation of the law."

John Parsons, consultant in charge of the assisted conception unit at King's College Hospital, London, was firmly opposed to the "macabre" idea. "There is no way of being sure that although the man wanted a child with his wife, he also wanted her to have their child after his death."

The woman, who is identified only by her initials, DB, is from the Midlands. She has taken out a second mortgage on her home to finance the legal case, which could cost her £80,000. She wants permission to be inseminated in Britain or permission for the sperm to be sent abroad. Doctors in Belgium and the United States have agreed to carry out the procedure. Her lawyers will argue in the High Court that she needs written permission only from a third party, not from her husband, for that sperm to be used for artificial insemination.

At her request, doctors at the Royal Hallamshire Hospital, Sheffield, took sperm from her 30-year-old husband while he was on a life-support machine. The sperm is being kept at Jessop Hospital for Women, Sheffield. The woman is backed by Professor Ian Cooke, chairman of the department of obstetrics and gynaecology at Jessop Hospital. He said: "We would like to help the patient but we have got to obey the law. Yet the Human Fertilisation and Embryology Act is couched in fairly general principles. It aimed to envisage future situations when it became law in 1990, but it is always difficult to predict every clinical situation."

The Human Fertilisation and Embryology Authority, said that written consent was a fundamental requirement in law for the storage, and use, of a man's gametes after his death. "The written consent can only be obtained after the donor has had suitable opportunity to receive proper counselling, including consideration of the welfare of any child that may be born."

Letters, page 17



CHRIS HARRIS

Filming begins on the set of *The Borrowers* in Berkshire, as the Fifties book becomes an expensive movie

Borrowers find £20m for big adventure

BY DALYA ALBERGE

FILMING began yesterday on a lavish £20 million cinema production of *The Borrowers*, the 1950s children's book about four-inch people who live under the floorboards of an old house inhabited by full-size human beings. It is claimed to be the most expensive family film made in this country by a British company since *Chitty Chitty Bang Bang*, almost 30 years ago.

The movie, which got under way in Theale, Berkshire, is being produced by a British company, Working Title, whose successes include *Four Weddings and a Funeral* and *Dead Man Walking*. It was inspired by the company's successful television production starring Ian Holm and Penelope Wilton.



Mark Williams, left, and John Goodman on set

Tim Bevan, the co-founder of Working Title, the London-based production arm of PolyGram Filmed Entertainment, which has provided the cash, said: "This would not have happened even two or three years ago. There is a healthier climate now." The film-makers promise "truly sensational visual effects and awe-inspiring sets". Props include 15-inch paper-clips and a ten-foot-tall toaster. For 17 weeks, they will be filming at Shepperton Studios, Middlesex, where 15 sets include a gargantuan kitchen and a whole house beneath the floorboards.

The film of the book, by Mary Norton, will star John Goodman, best-known for roles in *Roseanne* and *The Flintstones*, as a villainous lawyer and Jim Broadbent, who appeared in Woody Allen's *Bullets Over Broadway*, as the miniature father.

Arts, pages 36-39

Telephone sex pest jailed for five years

A MAN who threatened to kill a middle-aged woman in obscene telephone calls was compared yesterday with a Gestapo torturer by a judge who jailed him for five years.

David Smith persecuted a businesswoman whose picture he discovered in a trade magazine in 1990. He plagued her for six months before one call was traced by police to a telephone box in Oldham.

Smith, 50, of Lees, Oldham, was convicted yesterday at Manchester Crown Court of making threats to kill the woman, from Birkenhead.

In numerous calls recorded by police he threatened to tie her to a bed in a sound-proof cellar at his flat and perform degrading sexual acts upon her. Passing sentence yesterday, Judge Burke said: "This programme of lingering death would have stretched the fantasies of any Gestapo interrogator."

The court was told that Smith had a history of persecuting women. He was first fined for making obscene telephone calls in 1970. His mail and telephone calls will be monitored in prison.

At last, the joints are jumping, says Good Food Guide

BY ROBIN YOUNG

THERE has never been a more exciting time to dine out, according to the new edition of *The Good Food Guide*, published today. After four and a half decades of bellyaching about lamentable national standards of cuisine and service, the book is suddenly full of praise.

Jim Ainsworth, the guide's editor, writes in his foreword: "Restaurants in Britain are doing nothing short of a grand job ... At long last this country really gets a buzz from eating out and at long last we have restaurants to cherish and be proud of on a scale never before experienced." Mr Ainsworth says that one of the guide's former editors told him: "I wish I had had the restaurants [to review] like you've got."

London is a "destination city" attracting diners from all over Britain and abroad and other city centres such as Leeds and Edinburgh are "also jumping". Mr Ainsworth says. "Some of the best chefs around the regions are setting up a café here, a bistro there, and installing trusted sous-chefs to look after them. The food in most of these places turns out to be exciting and high quality."

Restaurant owners in Leeds, which has six establishments in the guide, yesterday suggested reasons for their success. Jeff Baker, the chef for two of them, Brasserie Forty Four and Pool Court at 42, said: "I worked in London for nine years and there is no doubt Leeds is getting more like London every day. We have a lot of accountants, solicitors and other professional people here, and that helps."

Simon Gueller, the chef-proprietor of Rascasse, specialising in Mediterranean cuisine, said: "The people are not conservative. They welcome innovations and experiment."

The Good Food Guide says that not only are national standards high but "the exuberance and fun in both kitchen and dining room strikes home". There is a "wonderful mix of cooking styles", some representing a pure national or regional culinary heritage while "others borrow ideas and ingredients from wherever the chef fancies".

There are still minor causes for dissatisfaction. Newly fashionable big restaurants, Mr Ainsworth complains, have not mastered a booking system and some have waiters hovering offensively to "sweep diners out of the door" as quickly as possible so that more customers can be seated. Smoking is a source of "frustration and division", waiters know too little about the ingredients of dishes to guard against risks of allergies, wine prices are often unjustifiably marked up and some out-of-date and inequitably administered dress codes, particularly about men having to wear ties, are applied.

There are comparatively few changes in the guide's ratings for recommended restaurants. The most notable is the promotion of Marco Pierre White's The Restaurant at the Hyde Park Hotel in Knightsbridge, central London, to a top mark of five.

The four other establishments sharing that honour are unchanged: Chez Nico at Ninety Park Lane, in Mayfair; La Tante Claire in Chelsea; Le Manoir aux Quat' Saisons in Great Milton, Oxfordshire; and Altnaharrie Inn at Ullapool, Highland.

☐ *The Good Food Guide 1997* (Which? Ltd, £14.99).

When eating was harder to stomach

PREVIOUS editors of *The Good Food Guide* have been noticeably less complementary. It was founded by the journalist and social historian Raymond Postgate, who launched The Good Food Club in 1950 with an article in *The Leader* which said: "Food is ill-cooked in hotels and restaurants, or it is insufficient, or it is badly and rudely served up — or all three."

By 1978 his successor, Christopher Driver, was complaining: "Meals are cooked with contempt by people whose minds are mainly on the cash register (if they own their own business) or on knocking-off time (if they are employees)."

In 1981 Mr Driver protested at "ever-so-polite rip-offs by people who can only disguise their incompetence or misjudgment by charging ever higher prices to ever fewer customers."

In 1987 Drew Smith asserted that eating out had become "an uncomfortable form of financial torture". As recently as 1994 the present editor, Jim Ainsworth, noted sourly: "Greed is alive and well in the restaurant trade."

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'No room for boardroom excesses' in Shadow Chancellor's hard-headed, costed plans

Brown declares his aim of a 'people's tax cut'

BY JILL SHERMAN AND ALICE THOMSON

A STARTING rate of tax of 10p and an easing of poverty traps for the low paid are his aims as Chancellor, Gordon Brown announced yesterday.

In an impasssioned speech that earned him a standing ovation, the Shadow Chancellor made clear that millionaires would not be able to exploit tax loopholes and the privatised utilities would have to pay a windfall tax.

He made clear that he had no intention of imposing penal tax rates on the wealthy but would use any available resources to help the poorest groups by introducing a lower rate of tax and ensuring that those on benefit did not pay excessive marginal tax rates.

In his keynote conference speech Mr Brown declared: "My tax-cutting ambition is to lower the starting rate of tax to 15p or even 10p, to help everyone. While the Tories want a millionaires' tax cut for themselves, I want a people's tax cut for jobs — one that will help thousands back to work."

In a speech designed to underline his determination to be tough on public spending Mr Brown also reassured delegates that he was not abandoning the party's socialist bedrock. "This is not a choice between morality and economics, between principles and realism, between prosperity and social justice, between head and heart. I don't want this party to stop dreaming dreams, to water down our idealism or discard our vision."

He said there would be "no room for boardroom excesses, no room for monopolies and cartels, no place for City cliques". But he gave warning that there could be "no quick fixes, no easy options, no magic-wand solutions by cooking the books or juggling the figures" in tackling Britain's economic problems. The only way ahead was through costed, hard-headed and radical policies for stability, employment and educational opportunity.

Mr Brown also put up a robust defence of his decision to cut child benefit for 16 to 18-year-olds and target the money on teenagers in poorer families. "Only half the mothers of teenagers after 16 receive child benefit and I cannot justify the wife of a millionaire receiving child benefit for a teenager over 16 when the mother of an unemployed teenager does not and a total of one million mothers do not," he said.

"There has never been universal child benefit after 16. But universal education — properly financed for all after 16 for the first time — there must be and will be and it is now within our grasp."



Most delegates toed the unity line in the debate, but John Edmonds, general-secretary of the GMB general union, was one of the few to give an old Labour tub-thumping speech. "I am fed up with company directors who refuse our members a decent level of pay and then award themselves the sort of money that most people never see in a lifetime," he said. To cheers he added: "Under £4 an hour for the people at the bottom and over £400,000 a year for people at the top is no way to run an economy."

Steve Stevenson, from the Transport and General Workers' Union, introduced a motion calling on a Labour government to renationalise the gas, electricity, water and railway industries. The public want to see the basic industries ... back in public ownership," he said.

Christine Shawcroft of the CRS London Political Committee, said Labour was now tough on crime and added: "The best way of being tough on crime is, I think, by making sure stolen property is returned to its rightful owners — starting with privatisation."

☐ The Labour leadership last night avoided a potentially damaging row when delgates at the party conference backed a move to improve workers' rights.

Unions had been pushing for the new rights against unfair dismissal to apply to workers from their first day in a new job. However, a motion that would have been fiercely opposed by employers was toned down by the Labour leadership so that it was ambiguous about when the rights will apply.

The motion said: "These rights will apply to all employees regardless of hours worked, length of service or form of contract."

While unions said this meant the rights would apply immediately, leadership sources said the current two-year waiting period would remain until the House of Lords reports on the issue.

Peter Stothard, page 16
Leading article and Letters, page 17



New rate could cost £8.7bn

BY JILL SHERMAN

LABOUR'S plans to introduce a new starting rate of tax at 10p could cost as much as £8.7 billion according to Treasury figures. Even its more moderate ambition to cut tax to 15p would cost £4.35 billion if this were applied to the first £3,900 earned, as applies at present to the 20p band.

But Labour aides were anxious to point out that Gordon Brown has made no decision about how wide the band would be or whether the rate would be introduced by gradually dropping the 20p band in 1p stages.

The initial costs would be reduced considerably if the £3,900 band were reduced, which is likely, or if the new rate were phased in over several years. If both were done together the costs would be even less.

Mr Brown's aides claim that the whole package could be afforded at a stroke if the Tories abolished inheritance tax and capital gains tax. The former would raise £3 billion while the latter would raise £1.5 billion. They concede that this is unlikely to be done overnight, if it is mentioned at all in the November Budget.

If Mr Clarke makes no such proposals, Mr Brown will have to look to other measures to raise the money. One option is to set a new 50p rate of tax for those earning over £100,000. But this will raise only £1 billion which would have little impact on helping the poorer workers.

Other options include lowering the thresholds for those paying the 40p rate of tax. But this is highly unlikely as it would penalise the Middle England voters whom Tony Blair is most keen to attract. Another choice would be to reduce a range of tax allowances for the very wealthy.

Mr Brown has already earmarked the £3 billion windfall tax from privatised utilities to spend on programmes to get young people off benefit into work. But his aides have hinted that he may try to levy the windfall tax on more utilities than water and electricity, which could bring in considerably higher sums.

Opposition candour replaced by government caution

RIDDELL ON POLITICS

Gordon Brown already behaves as if he is Chancellor, while Kenneth Clarke increasingly talks like a Shadow Chancellor. Mr Brown emphasises the need for "iron discipline" on public spending and every nuance of his speech yesterday was studied as a guide to what he may do in office.

By contrast, Mr Clarke talks candidly and freely about the difficulty of tax cuts as if he were a detached commentator without the constraints of office. That is what has made Mr Clarke the most interesting politician of the conference season.

The contrast brings out the unusual atmosphere of the Labour conference — unusual for a party that has become so accustomed to opposition. But, now, all the talk is of Operation Victory with fringe meetings about preparing for government. Party leaders warn about the dangers of hubris. But almost everyone at the conference believes that Labour will be in power next May, and is behaving accordingly.

Yesterday Mr Brown married radicalism with financial respectability, putting "new" Labour views in "old" Labour rhetoric. It was a skilful performance, a hint of what might have been if he had become Labour leader two years ago.

He offered that uplift and sense of direction that party activists complain is lacking in "new" Labour. He promised far-reaching programmes on job creation, skills training, reform of the tax and benefit taper system and the minimum wage. He offered a persuasive case for redirecting the resources currently spent on child benefit for some 16 to 18-year-olds to help to support universal education and training for all after 16. There was a hint of Harold Wilson's denunciations of "old school tie" attitudes in Mr Brown's promise that "in the new Britain, under Labour, there will be no room for boardroom excesses which waste national resources, no room for monopolies and cartels which restrict competition, no place for City cliques".

This was all rooted in sober promises of "No quick fixes. No easy options. No magic wand solutions by cooking the books, or juggling the figures. No unsustainable dashes for growth. No wish list spending solutions."

But there was an element of smoke and mirrors. This was perhaps not the occasion for discussion of Labour's commitment to the golden rule limiting public spending and for clarification of whether or how the top rate of tax will be raised. But these questions have to be answered at some stage. Meanwhile, promising a starting tax rate of 10p or 15p again exposes Labour to Tory attacks. It is a largely empty promise for Labour to hint at raising money by reversing any cut in capital gains or inheritance taxes announced in the November Budget. These measures would take a long time to work through, so little money would be available in the short term.

The main weakness of Mr Brown's speech was his failure to address the deterioration in public finances and how this will inevitably constrain his freedom of manoeuvre if he becomes Chancellor. Will taxes have to be raised, and spending plans trimmed after the election? Half an answer has come from the ever candid Mr Clarke.

In his GMTV interview on Sunday, Mr Clarke warned against "frothy" tax cuts which might not be sustainable and anyway were not required to win the election. Far from being a gaffe or mistake, he was only speaking the truth when he said that, in view of the Government's record on taxes, the public would look "twice at tax cuts from this Government and will only accept them if they can see they fit in with a sensible strategy that's going to make them better off for some years to come". That also applies to spending promises. But then Mr Brown has discarded the candour of opposition for the caution and evasions of government — even if still in waiting.

PETER RIDDELL

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INSTRUMENTS FOR PROFESSIONALS

CONFERENCE IN BRIEF

Foreign companies 'no threat to media'

Britain should not be afraid of foreign companies owning parts of the media, Labour supporters were told yesterday. Les Hinton, executive chairman of News International, which owns Times Newspapers Holdings, and a director of the Press Association, told a fringe meeting that increased competition in the market, not regulation, would "drive the new proliferation of media".

He emphasised that, with the exception of the BBC, no single media group commanded more than seven per cent of the time Britons spent with their media. News International products took up about 3.5 per cent, he said. "We must not be afraid of visitors from abroad and we must look across the world for new markets."

Ferguson visit

Alex Ferguson, the manager of Manchester United and a Labour supporter, will attend a fringe meeting chaired by Jack Cunningham, the Shadow National Heritage Secretary, to discuss Labour's new charter for football.

Policy plea

Labour activists called on Tony Blair to give ordinary members a greater say in how policy is formulated. Linda McAvan, vice-chairwoman of Labour Reform said many delegates felt policy was dominated by a sterile debate between Mr Blair's inner circle and left-wingers who did not want any change.

Today's business

Morning: Clare Short, spokeswoman for Overseas Affairs, platform speech on women's issues; Robin Cook, Shadow Foreign Secretary, speech on Europe. Afternoon: Tony Blair's main conference speech. Main fringe meetings: Tribune rally with Gordon Brown, Robin Cook and Baroness Castle of Blackburn.

Raising taxes is a vote winner, says Hattersley

BY JAMES LANDALE
POLITICAL REPORTER

A PROMISE of tax increases to pay for public services would win votes for Labour, Roy Hattersley said yesterday.

The former deputy leader urged Tony Blair to remain true to the party's egalitarian traditions. He said that Labour had lost the last general election because it failed to win the voters' trust.

"The British people would have voted for tax increases to improve services," he said. "Now the competence of the leadership is undoubted. I believe that services are in such a desperate need of improvement that were we to see a hypothecated increase in taxes, there would be a real enthusiasm for bringing it about."

Speaking at a meeting of Labour Reform, a group of activists calling for greater involvement of party members in policymaking, Mr Hattersley also warned Mr Blair that Labour would not survive more than one term in government unless it maintained a core belief in social equality. He said that a party should change its policies with the times, but not its principles.

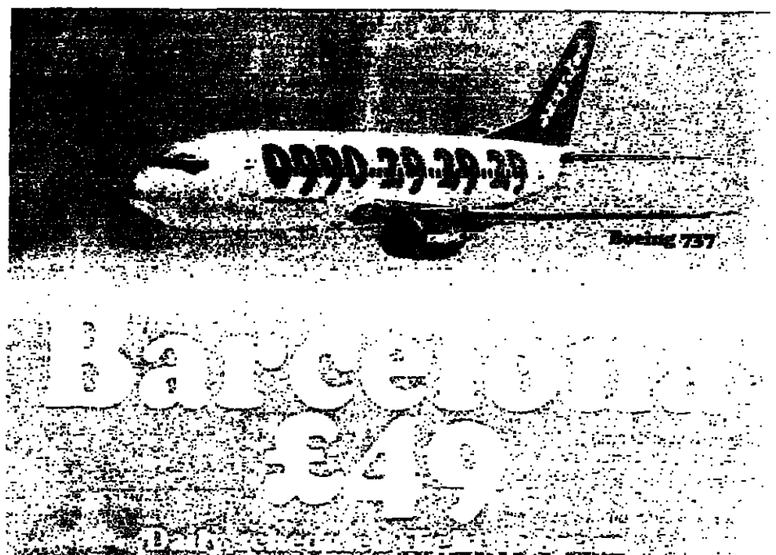


Hattersley: services must be improved

"If you have an organisation based on a core belief, you cleave to the central principle and you adjust your policies to the principle and the prevailing circumstances," he said. "It is very important that the party should have that central core which keeps us together and keeps us in one piece."

Mr Hattersley argued that party activists needed some substantial policies and ideology to try to sell to the electorate on the doorstep. "I don't believe you will go out in the rain for fiscal probity," he said, referring to the mantra repeated constantly by Gordon Brown, the Shadow Chancellor. "But you will go out in the rain for a more equal society."

Labour should have the confidence to sell an idea of social justice and equality, rather than just low taxes. Quoting Gladstone, he said that voters were not simply after "the fructification of the florin in their pocket". He said: "I do not believe that that is all the people want, and I believe politicians underestimate the people if they pander to that view."



صكذا من الاصل

The show goes on for Harriet, new Labour's super trouper

BY ALICE THOMSON
POLITICAL REPORTER

HARRIET HARMAN yesterday faced with aplomb one of the most nerve-racking 24 hours of her political life. Not only was she in charge of the most controversial issue of the conference, pensions, but she knew that at 5pm she could face the public humiliation of being thrown off the National Executive Committee.

The Shadow Social Security Secretary was up at 5am, reading newspaper forecasts of her demise, before being briefed in her room by her two aides about damage limitation. Having dressed in a maroon trouser suit, she went down to the lobby of the Imperial Hotel at 6am where she was met by glaring camera lights.

Forget Cherie Booth and Barbara Castle. Ms Harman was the woman of the day. Everyone wanted to know whether she was worried about the afternoon's NEC election results. Did she think Tony Blair would come to her rescue again as he had when she decided to send her child to an opt-out grammer school? And was she seething at the octogenarian Baroness Castle of Blackburn for opposing her on pensions?

Ms Harman had had only four hours' sleep. The previous evening had been spent buttering up delegates before heading off for the *New Statesman* party, where she stayed until 1.30am.

Only three other MPs were doing the media rounds while it was still dark outside, the rebels Ken Livingstone, Jeremy Corbyn and Diane Abbott. The shadow minister toyed nervously with her pensions cribsheets as she entered the media ring. Her first interview was with BBC Radio's *Good Morning Scotland*. Tucked in beside a bellowing Big Breakfast producer and TalkBack Radio, she tried to concentrate on the tricky pension question while those around her discussed the sexiest MPs in Westminster.

GMTV was filming her so she could not even take a slurp of coffee. As she finished, she just had time to say to her aide, "I can't do any more TV before I put some make-up on," before being whisked into the portable building that is home to *Radio 4's Today*. She stumbled a little as she talked about caring for the poorest pensioners but didn't make a gaffe. When James Naughtie, the presenter, asked if she thought that she would keep her position on the NEC, she smiled sweetly: "You will just have to contain your enthusiasm until 5pm, Jim."

Half an hour later Gordon Brown had emerged to talk about tax. Mr Brown got away with a crumpled suit and stained tie; Ms Harman knew that she had to look immaculate. She just had time to put on her make-up before the BBC and ITV crews captured her in a pincer movement. They wanted to know whether she minded being the least popular MP along with Virginia Bottomley, according to a *Sunday Times* survey. Ms Harman ignored the question.

By 8am grey spin-doctors had emerged blinking into the light but Ms Harman, buoyed by her head-start, did not need them. Nor was their advice from her husband, the trade unionist Jack Dromey, who was in London with the children. Instead she had breakfast with her second-in-command, Henry McLeish, and the new, svelte Mr Brown, and darted around between spoonfuls of muesli talking to the press.

She made sure she was seen beaming on stage for the opening of the conference before disappearing to talk to former miners from the Rhondda Valley. "I always thought Harriet was a stuck-up, vacuous middle-class do-gooder, but she has got real guts," one said.

While Baroness Castle held a glamorous fringe conference, with champagne, to restate her opposition to any compromise over pensions, Ms Harman talked to pensioners from Age Concern and ate vegetarian sandwiches. She went to support Mr Brown while he delivered his speech before going away to write her own. At 4pm she went into more talks about pensions with unions.

At 5pm she went alone to hear the NEC results, emerging triumphant half an hour later. She had got in — and with more votes than Ms Abbott. Her enemies said it was only because of the womens' quota, but she didn't care. There was another fringe event to address, followed by a dinner with journalists, three more television interviews and parties. Her final showdown with Baroness Castle on pensions wasn't for another 48 hours. Ms Harman had time to enjoy her victory.

Smith promises to end waiting for cancer surgery

BY ARTHUR LEATHLEY
POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

LABOUR pledged yesterday to ensure that no cancer patient would be made to wait more than a fortnight for surgery.

The promise forms the foundation of a £100-million plan to cut overall waiting lists and is intended to be implemented within the first year of a Labour government.

Chris Smith, the Shadow Health Secretary, told delegates that the decision would benefit 137,000 people, some of whom wait eight months for surgery, and would cost up to £40 million. He said that the cost would be met by savings on "unnecessary and expensive bureaucracy".

Although the announcement was broadly welcomed by doctors, cancer campaign groups cast doubt on Labour's ability to cut waiting lists so quickly. They said that it could take several years to introduce "immediate" surgery, considered to be within two weeks. It was pointed out that the vast majority of cancer patients already undergo surgery within a month of diagnosis.

Mr Smith said that Labour would investigate the possibility of using smaller hospitals, possibly including community and disused cottage hospitals, to give better post-operative care. He accused health service managers of forcing patients out of hospital too early, leading to unnecessary readmissions. He also announced plans to consult employers and trade unions on ways of improving health at work.

Chris Smith provoked laughter when he ridiculed a health trust memorandum that advised managers on the correct use of chairs. He told delegates: "Under the heading of Immediate Action, it says: 'Managers and staff are advised to ensure that all chairs and stools are used solely for their intended purpose and in the correct manner.' The memo, he claimed, was part of the "explosion of unnecessary bureaucracy".

The Shadow Health Secretary underlined his credentials as a senior left-winger. Only 24 hours after Robin Cook, the Shadow Foreign Secretary, urged Tony Blair to address the issue of poverty, Mr Smith also strayed slightly beyond his health brief to take up the issue.

"As Tony Blair has said, if after five years of a Labour Government we have not succeeded in rolling back the tide of poverty then we might as well pack up our bags as a political party and go home. Tackling poverty is part and parcel of what we believe in as a party. And it's part of what brought me into this movement in the first place. And it's why our pledge on ending the nightmare of unemployment for our young people is so important."

Labour's plans to end cancer waiting lists marked a shift away from past pledges to help patients who have waited longest and instead concentrate resources on those in greatest need of surgery. James Johnson, chairman of the British Medical Association's consultants' committee, said: "The idea of differential waiting list targets, depending on the urgency of the condition, seems to be a far more sophisticated way of dealing with the problems of long waiting lists."

However, David Skidmore, a cancer consultant from Dartford, Kent, accused Mr Smith of being "deceived by figures" and failing to research the background. Many cancer patients are in fact waiting for a second phase of surgery, such as plastic surgery, and are no longer suffering from cancer. In any case, it does not necessarily help to rush into surgery in the way that seems to be suggested."



Be prepared: a draft manifesto awaited every delegate yesterday

Leader's allies win seats in NEC elections

BY ANDREW PIERCE, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

TWO allies of Tony Blair were elected to the National Executive Committee in a result which is seen as a further boost for his leadership.

In the women's section, Hilary Armstrong, the Shadow Environment Minister, took the seat vacated by Joan Lestor, the veteran left-winger, who is retiring at the general election. Ian McCartney, the party's employment spokesman, comfortably won the nomination of the Socialist Societies section.

Mr McCartney said he saw his success in getting onto the NEC for the first time as a victory for the campaign he has run against the so-called "fat cat" executives.

However, Ken Livingstone and Jack Straw, the Shadow Home Secretary, were denied places despite polling more votes in the constituency section than Harriet Harman. She won a place because of the quota rule which guarantees a place for three women; the other women elected were Diane Abbott and Marjorie Mowlam.

Robin Cook, the Shadow Foreign Secretary, was first in the constituency section for the second year running with a 25 per cent increase in his vote. David Blunkett replaced Gordon Brown in second place and the Shadow Chancellor slipped to third. Labour officials were delighted with the outcome. "It is a great result for the leadership. The NEC is much stronger.

"Harriet Harman beat Diane Abbott and the two are closer to the leadership than their predecessors," said an official.

☐ In the constituency section the following seven members were elected by a postal ballot: Robin Cook: 109,801 (polled 85,670 last year); David Blunkett: 94,096 (75,984); Gordon Brown 93,679 (79,371); Dennis Skinner 73,396 (64,288); Marjorie Mowlam 68,271 (53,578); Harriet Harman 58,112 (69,029); Diane Abbott 54,800 (45,653). Those not elected were: Jack Straw 64,547 (58,486); Ken Livingstone 58,593 (53,423).



Livingstone: polled more votes than Ms Harman

A new world of democracy, better suits and more drink

A year ago Alan Howarth, MP for Stratford-on-Avon, left the Tory party to join Labour. In the first of a series, he reports his impressions of his first Labour conference

ALAN HOWARTH'S



CONFERENCE DIARY

Labour's conference is longer, more complicated and much more waywardly democratic than the Tories'. At the end of 24 hours at my first Labour Conference I have to say that I am bemused by both the procedures and the politics.

What does strike me is the depth of ethical commitment and thoughtfulness. There is also a range of expertise that it is unlikely would be in evidence at a Tory debate. One man, 40 years in the Salvation Army, and 30 years a social worker, was followed by a midwife, a speech therapist, an ophthalmologist and two GPs.

Another speaker said: "I am proud to be in the party of compassion." So am I.

My initiation to conference was fitting for a former higher education minister. At the Labour students' reception at the Imperial Hotel on Sunday evening I was supplied with lager by an extremely beautiful girl and informed by a young media veteran that Labour proceedings are even more liberally lubricated by alcohol. New Labour students certainly wear better suits.

I was lobbied by the British Entertainment and Discotheque Association, sponsors of the event, who want the party to legalise Sunday dancing. I said I would support the case providing it was not made compulsory.

A model short speech by Labour student Lizzie Watkins expressed the genuine warmth of support for Tony Blair that was felt in the room. Lest Labour students should be suspected of sycophancy I am pleased also to report overhearing someone wondering out loud whether, once Jack Straw has brought in his curfews, it will be possible any longer to proceed from disco to disco at conference.

I joined crowds of delegates who funnelled out of the side entrance of the Winter Gardens to travel back down Coronation Street to hear Jack Jones and Peter Townsend address a fringe meeting on 'Pensioners Out Of Poverty', in the boardroom of the Blackpool Hotel and Guest Association.

As the organiser kept plaintively repeating, the event was organised in March when it was assumed not many people were interested in pensions.

It was a very crowded, very hot and somewhat grumpy meeting, from which many were turned away. Many others, including myself, had to strain to hear. Jack Jones was introduced as the patron saint of pensioners. Jack reminded us that you don't get to be a saint without a capacity for carefully calibrated malice by saying to those present — some of whom, as a member of the Shadow Cabinet suggested, may just possibly have demonstrated against In Place of Strife — that 'we've managed to convert Barbara'.

Introduced by Clare Short as "our own Iron Chancellor" Gordon Brown's task in the economic debate was less to reassure the markets for the umpteenth time than to convince the Labour Party that there is daylight between his policies and Ken Clarke's. He did so, to the relief and enthusiasm of Conference.

His argument that social justice is not a bonus to be earned if an economic miracle occurs but a precondition of sustainable economic success is far away from the Tory conception.

It is persuasive both ethically and practically. Similarly he stressed the imperative of investing in education, the foundations of economic success being laid not in the boardroom but in the classroom.

All the same, when he asked rhetorically whether our lack of performance is because the British people undervalue education, did he entirely persuade himself that it is not so? Maybe it will take a Scottish Chancellor to have that faith.

Pensions defeat in balance

BY ARTHUR LEATHLEY

THE Labour leadership was last night fighting an eleventh-hour battle to avert a conference defeat tomorrow as one of the biggest trade unions announced it is to oppose party policy on pension rights.

John Edmonds, general secretary of the GMB, made clear that his union will back Baroness Castle of Blackburn in her fight to force Labour to raise state pensions.

However, two other key unions — Unison and the Transport and General Workers' Union — deferred a decision on whether to support demands for pensions to be increased in line with earnings. This left the Labour leadership hoping it could avert embarrassment today, either by defeating the demands in a conference vote or by persuading constituency delegates not to force the issue to a vote.

Tensions over the issue increased last night after Lady Castle accused Harriet Harman, the Shadow Social Security Secretary, of "inventing" figures. She said that Ms Harman had written to trade union leaders telling them that their members should be aware that if pensions were earnings-related, each union member would lose £500 from a rebate they receive on occupational pensions.

Lady Castle accused the party of "fighting dirty because they are frightened". "That was a complete fabrication to suggest there would be any reduction in the rebate," she said.

Lady Castle has refused to accept a compromise hammered out at the weekend to allow the issue to be covered by a review of pensions policy. Earlier, Gordon Brown, the Shadow Chancellor, flatly rejected Lady Castle's claim that he was putting the "frighteners" on delegates to back the leadership's proposal.

MP decries 'cultural malaise'

A LABOUR frontbencher yesterday attacked the "miserable bunch of chattering classes" who he claimed were "ashamed" of making profitable Hollywood-style films. Dr Kim Howells, the party's trade and industry spokesman and MP for Pontypridd, blamed a "cultural malaise".

"I can never understand why Hollywood can raise money and British companies can't," he told a fringe meeting. "I think we have got the directorial talent, we've certainly got acting talent, we've got some decent writers."

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BMA clinical congress

New chief medical officer calls for paracetamol ban

FROM JEREMY LAURANCE, HEALTH CORRESPONDENT, IN ISTANBUL

PARACETAMOL, Britain's most popular painkiller, must be banned, the Government's newly appointed chief medical officer in Scotland said yesterday.

Professor Sir David Carter, who takes up his post on November 1, said paracetamol poisoning was the commonest cause of acute liver failure. Paracetamol poisoning causes more than 100 deaths and 30,000 hospital admissions a year. Almost all were deliberate attempts at suicide.

It has been known for more than a decade that paracetamol could be made safe by the addition of the antidote, acetylcysteine. However, the safer drug costs more and drug companies have been reluctant to promote it because of fears it would damage their sales.

Sir David, who is currently Professor of Surgery and director of the liver unit at the Royal Edinburgh Infirmary, said one in ten liver transplants performed in his unit was for paracetamol poisoning. He said he could see no reason why paracetamol should not be replaced with a similar product containing an antidote that would make it safe in overdose. "I don't really understand why it can't be removed," he said.

Sir David, who was speaking to the British Medical Association's annual clinical congress, in Istanbul, said that 30 patients with paracetamol poisoning were referred to his unit over two years, of whom ten had transplants.

A single dose of 20 tablets was sufficient to cause liver failure but it was often impossible to tell how many tablets had been taken or when: a liver transplant had to be performed within 24 hours to have a reasonable chance of success.

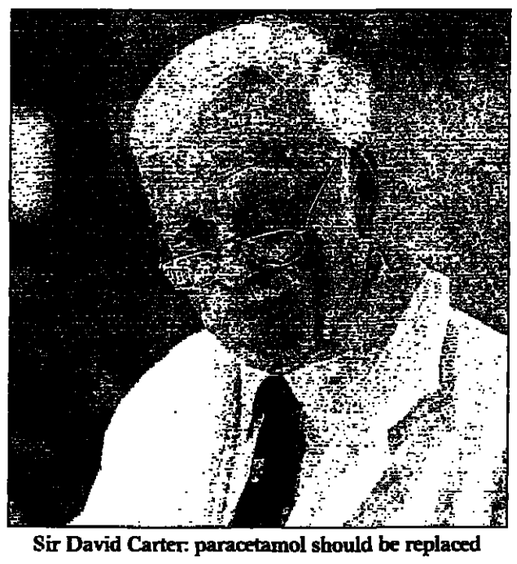
Asked if he would press for a ban on paracetamol when he takes up his new post he said: "It is one of the issues I would like to take up."

Dr Geoffrey Brandon, director of the Paracetamol Information Bureau, which is financed by the drug's manufacturers, said paracetamol was used by 30 million people a year in the UK and had a remarkable safety record over 40 years. "A tiny minority use it for deliberate self-poisoning but fortunately the recovery rate is better than 99 per cent," he said. Paracetamol accounts for 6 per cent of the 2,000 deaths a year from medical overdoses.

Sir David said that doctors were increasingly referring patients with paracetamol overdoses and with alcoholic liver disease for liver transplants, which cost £40,000 each and imposed increasing strain on liver units. He said: "I find this is one of the most difficult issues. Should we be using transplants for alcoholic liver disease when organs are in short supply? The public will have to become more involved."

Sir David said that most victims of paracetamol poisoning were young and did well with liver transplants but sometimes there was a history of drug abuse or infection with HIV. "If that is in the background it colours your thinking," he said. Alcoholics were required to stop drinking for at least six months before their case for a transplant would be considered.

Sir David admitted that he was playing God. "I think that's inevitable if you practise medicine. We are making clinical decisions that affect life and death all the time. Part of the calculation of risks and benefits involves the setting to which the patient returns and the ability they have to cope medically and socially with the pressures."



Sir David Carter: paracetamol should be replaced

When the 'safer' painkiller can cause headaches too



MEDICAL BRIEFING

BY DR THOMAS STUTTAFORD

PARACETAMOL is often regarded as the safe alternative to aspirin for headaches. But this is true only when the officially recommended dose of four grams, or eight tablets, a day is not exceeded.

Dr Roger Williams, the retiring director of the Institute of Liver Studies at King's College London, said: "It's untrue to think of paracetamol as a dangerous drug because it's only dangerous if taken in overdose. It is the safest analgesic [painkiller] available, provided that it is taken in the recommended dose. Between 70 and 80 per cent of the patients seen at King's who had attempted suicide with paracetamol were not only trying to kill themselves but had chosen paracetamol because they knew of its liver toxicity."

One of the dangers of paracetamol poisoning is that the lethal dose varies from person to person. But studying the figures at King's College Hospital, 80-90 per cent who had taken a dose that caused liver necrosis had swallowed more than 30 tablets at once. Ten per cent had taken 20-30 tablets and only a small number had taken fewer than 20. Paracetamol is rapidly absorbed and metabolised, so that if instructions are followed build-up of the drug does not occur.

Aspirin, the alternative to paracetamol, is a useful anti-inflammatory agent as well as being analgesic, and is a life-saving drug for many people with established or potential heart disease. But it has two main disadvantages.

In children, aspirin occasionally causes Reye's syndrome, acute brain damage associated with fatty infiltration of the liver and other organs, and in adults, particularly the aged, aspirin is responsible for gastro-intestinal bleeding — usually no more than a slow ooze but sometimes a serious haemorrhage.

Dr Williams, in keeping with standard teaching on both sides of the Atlantic, recommends to the heavy drinkers that he sees that they should avoid paracetamol. Immediate treatment of paracetamol poisoning is important. Although the drug is rapidly absorbed through the stomach, a washout is recommended if the patient is seen within four hours. In remote country districts an emetic is injected.

Two antidotes, acetylcysteine and methionine, are available. They are effective only if given within 24 hours, preferably within 15. Methionine is added to some preparations of paracetamol so that those who take an overdose also take the antidote.

To those who need a mild painkiller, the advice is not to give aspirin to young children and to take care if there is a tendency to indigestion. I still prescribe paracetamol, by itself or in combination, but I try to remember to warn patients, whether hardened drinkers or abstemious, never to exceed the recommended dose.

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Personal monitor gives women the green light for sex

BY NIGEL HAWKES
SCIENCE EDITOR



The Persona monitor

A NEW contraceptive device launched today will give women the green light when they can have sex without the risk of pregnancy. A small hand-held monitor, containing a mini-laboratory for testing hormone levels and a personal database that builds up a record of monthly cycles, will tell the woman at a glance whether she needs to take precautions.

The device, called Persona, puts natural methods of family planning on a scientific basis. In tests, it proved 95 per cent effective in preventing pregnancy, a success rate comparable with that of condoms.

The system, marketed by the Unilever company Unipath, was welcomed yesterday by independent experts who said that it would be a valuable addition to existing methods. "Persona is a real breakthrough in contraception," Professor John Guillebaud, of the Margaret Pyke Centre in London, said. "It increases women's choice, offering them a method that is not only unambiguous and simple to use but gives a sense of a woman working with her own body."

The system is based on the well-established fact that pregnancy is possible on only certain days of the month. On the morning after her period begins, the women presses the start button on the device. Afterwards she checks each morning what light the device is displaying.

Most days it will show green but on about eight mornings in each cycle it will show a yellow light, which means that she has to do a simple urine test. Test-sticks wetted with urine are inserted into the device, which measures the hormone levels. A red or green light follows, depending on the hormones.

Unipath said that on between six and ten days in each cycle Persona would show a red light, indicating that barrier contraception would be necessary that day. The hormone levels are stored on the database, allowing the device to be "tuned" more precisely to each woman's cycle.

Trials were conducted with 1,200 women in Britain, Ireland and Germany. Dr Rosemary Kirkham of the University of Manchester, who has been involved with many contraceptive trials, said: "This is the first time I have found that the volunteers have enjoyment in using the method. It's a wonderful new concept, putting couples in charge of their own fertility."

Professor Bob Snowden of Exeter University, who was involved in the trials, said: "It is very simple to use. There is no fear of side-effects and it is independent of doctors."

The monitor costs £49.95 and a month's supply of the test-sticks is £9.95. Unipath has given Boots exclusive selling rights for the first year.

Birth rate in EU lowest since war

FEWER than four million babies were born in the European Union last year. The fertility rate of 1.43 children per woman was the lowest since the Second World War. Population statistics published yesterday show that, when deaths in Europe are taken into account, the natural increase last year was 290,100.

The figures show that fertility has fallen in most EU countries over the past 15 years. Ireland still has the EU's highest fertility rate, at 1.87 children per woman last year. Next came Finland (1.81), Denmark (1.8), Sweden (1.74), the United Kingdom (1.71) and France (1.7). Italy (1.17) had the lowest.

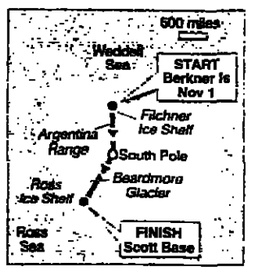
Fiennes plans solo transantarctic trek

BY PETER FOSTER

SIR RANULPH FIENNES, the polar explorer, yesterday outlined his plans to become the first man to cross the Antarctic on foot, alone and unsupported. The journey, across 1,800 miles of frozen wilderness, is expected to take nearly three months.

Sir Ranulph, 53, who sets off on November 1, will drag 500lb of supplies and equipment on a sledge in temperatures as low as -20C (-4F). "I can only liken it to towing a legless bathtub filled with three large men over 1,800 miles of sand dunes," he said.

If he succeeds, Sir Ranulph will have achieved the last major remaining polar exploration record. He already holds the unsupported polar man-haul record with Dr Mike Stroud. Four other competitors, one thought to be from Britain, are expected to enter the race soon.



Sir Ranulph, an old Etonian and former SAS officer, will set off from Berkner Island and climb to the South Pole plateau at 10,000ft before descending to the Beardmore Glacier, the Ross Ice Shelf and the finish line at Scott Base. The expedition could raise more than £3 million for the breast cancer charity Breakthrough.

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Electoral reform rules out safe bets in New Zealand poll



Bryan Gould says the proportional representation system introduced for next week's elections remains a mystery to both politicians and voters

NEW ZEALAND'S first election under proportional representation is proving difficult for voters, commentators and politicians alike. With just over a week to go, only the foolhardy would bet on how the votes might be cast or on what the politicians might do once they are counted.

Despite public education campaigns, many voters are still confused at having to cast two votes — one for their constituency candidate and one for the party of their choice. Politicians seem equally confused by a multiparty system that is virtually certain to lead to coalition government.

The plight of the ruling conservative National Party illustrates the complexities. Its current poll rating of just below 40 per cent represents a very creditable maintenance of the support that brought it election success in 1993. Under a first-past-the-post system, it would get back in with a working majority. But the now adopted mixed member proportional system means 40 per cent of the vote will produce only 40 per cent of the seats. The National Party desperately needs a coalition partner — but no right-wing splinter group can be sure of reaching the 5 per cent threshold (or, alternatively, one constituency seat) needed to produce seats in the new Parliament. Even if they did win seats, the presence in a coalition with the National Party of the Christian Coalition (the New Zealand equivalent of the American Moral Majority) or the aggressively free-market Association of Citizens and Taxpayers would deter other smaller parties from entering such an arrangement.

So the National Party looks like being stuck tantalisingly short of the seats it needs to form a majority government. Jim Bolger, the Prime Minister, is reduced to talking vaguely of a minority government or offering an improbable coalition arrangement with his traditional Labor opponents.

At around a 20 per cent rating in the polls, Labor's Helen Clark is emerging as the most likely next Prime Minister. After three years of low popularity and internal party divisions, she is reaping the reward from a well-run campaign that has allowed her to be seen increasingly as the leader most likely to put together a viable coalition. Labor's vote may well be higher than its current rating.

This is just as well since no one in Labor's ranks has dared to contemplate the nightmare of having to enter a coalition deal as a junior partner. Labor needs to head off its two potential coalition partners while remaining sufficiently friendly to bring them into a post-election deal.

Ms Clark has played this difficult hand skilfully. Her mix of economic orthodoxy and social conscience may just allow her to keep both the centrist New Zealand First and the left-wing Alliance interested in a deal. Her problem is that her two potential partners have responded very differently to the new electoral system. Winston Peters — a defector from the National Cabinet and the populist leader of New Zealand First, whose support seems to have peaked a few months ago — has insisted he will discuss no coalition deals until after the votes have been cast. A National-New Zealand First coalition, therefore, remains a possibility, but personal antipathies make it unlikely.

Jim Anderton, the Alliance leader, on the other hand, is adamant that he will do deals only before the election. Ms Clark resists that for fear of being tarred with the brush of the Alliance's left-wing policies. It is hard to see anyway that Mr Anderton would turn his back on a post-election deal — especially if refusal meant he carried the can for keeping the National Party in power.

Add to this potent mix the very real possibility that individual MPs might jump ship after the election. Some might refuse to do a deal with parties they particularly dislike. Others might be tempted to break ranks for the sake of a post in a Cabinet formed by a rival.

The odds now favour, marginally, a change of government. But the world of PR is still a mystery to most of the players. The only certainty is that it still has some surprises in store.

The author, a former member of the British Shadow Cabinet, is Vice-Chancellor of Waikato University, Hamilton, New Zealand

Bolger accused of 'treason' as race for votes gathers pace

FROM JO ANDREWS IN WELLINGTON

JIM BOLGER, the New Zealand Prime Minister, was accused yesterday of "political treason" and "economic sabotage" by opposition leaders after he suggested that overseas investors should wait until after this month's general election before deciding to invest in the country.

Mr Bolger, whose National Party could lose power to a centre-left coalition in New Zealand's first election under proportional representation, was asked on Australian television what assurances he could offer investors. "I can only say their uncertainty ... at this stage, two weeks out, is totally understandable." If he were an overseas investor he would wait to see if a sensible coalition emerged, he said.

"Let me say to Australians, if we get some of the loopy policies of the Left come in to New Zealand again, you will get a whole lot of Kiwis over here in a hurry."

His remarks have brought a furious reaction. Winston Peters, leader of New Zealand First, which preaches economic nationalism, said: "It is political treason and could be economic treason were it not for the fact that Aussies are not as dumb as Jim Bolger." He added that Mr Bolger was behaving like "a spoilt brat".



Clark: criticised Bolger for economic sabotage

"He is saying: 'I have to be Prime Minister or things will be disastrous'. Well, people are saying they are disastrous now and we don't want you to be Prime Minister."

Helen Clark, the Labour Party leader, called Mr Bolger's message "economic sabotage" and accused him of "cynically setting out to destroy the New Zealand economy because the people of New Zealand are no longer likely to judge him fit to govern".

Only one party leader has supported Mr Bolger. Richard Prebble, a former Labour minister, now leader of the right-wing ACT party, said: "A left-wing coalition would return New Zealand to 'borrow and hope' policies by Christmas."

Mr Bolger denied he had said anything on Australian television that he had not said in public before. The share market and the exchange rate appear, so far, to have been unaffected by his remarks.

But the row comes at the end of a bad week for the Prime Minister. He has often looked tired and ill. In a televised debate which made use of an audience response meter, known as "the worm", he came last among the four main party leaders. He said later he did not know "the worm" was in use.

The most recent opinion poll still puts the National Party well ahead of the others with 37 per cent of the vote. Labour is on 21 per cent, New Zealand First 16 per cent, the Alliance 14 per cent and ACT at about 6 per cent.

Under the old Westminster-style "first-past-the-post" system, this would probably have been enough to give the National Party outright victory, but under the new voting system, a government can only be formed by coalition. At present, the odds on a broadly left-wing or broadly right-wing grouping appear evenly balanced. Polling day is on October 12.

BRUCE MILLER/REUTER



Relatives of Port Arthur massacre victims leave court in Hobart yesterday and, below, Martin Bryant, who faces 35 murder charges

Massacre relatives sob at suspect's denial

FROM RACHEL BRIDGE IN SYDNEY

ANGER and grief erupted in Tasmania's Supreme Court yesterday as Martin Bryant, the man accused of the island's Port Arthur massacre in April in which 35 people died, pleaded not guilty to all 72 charges against him.

Friends and relatives of those who died sobbed and held hands in the packed court room as the charges against Bryant, 29, which include 35 counts of murder, were read out. However, the sight of the defendant grinning as he responded to the charges proved too much for the brother of one victim, who shouted "You're a bloody coward, Bryant", before being removed from the court.

At one stage, Bryant appeared to stifle a laugh before saying yet again "not guilty" in a quiet but firm voice.

In the wake of numerous bomb threats, police mounted one of Australia's tightest security operations for Bryant's first public appearance since the massacre. Streets were cordoned off as the van carrying him was escorted from Hobart's Risdon prison by eight police cars. Once inside, Bryant was shielded by a bulletproof glass screen for the 30-minute hearing.

The trial, expected to last five weeks, begins before a jury next month. Bryant was remanded in custody.





Fears for Rao's life delay case

FROM REUTER IN DELHI

P. V. NARASIMHA RAO, the former Prime Minister of India, won a temporary reprieve in a criminal conspiracy case after police said militants could attack the political leader in Delhi's crowded courts.

Mr Rao had been summoned to appear before a lower court judge yesterday to face charges and possible arrest in the $100,000 (£64,000) conspiracy case. He would have been the first former Prime Minister to appear in court in a criminal case.

The Supreme Court intervened after police said the teeming Tis Hazari court complex was vulnerable to extremist attacks. It ruled that Mr Rao did not have to appear in court until it meets on October 7 to decide on the police demand that the hearing be shifted to a more secure location such as a nearby sports stadium, which would be easier to defend.

☐ **Lucknow:** The north Indian state of Uttar Pradesh state began polls yesterday which analysts said could test the ability of H.D. Deve Gowda, the Prime Minister, to ride out a challenge from Hindu nationalists. Lucknow, the state capital, is the main base of the Bharatiya Janata Party.

Ex-envoy accuses Patten of lying over democracy

FROM JONATHAN MIRSKY IN HONG KONG

SIR PERCY CRADOCK, former adviser on China to Margaret Thatcher and John Major, yesterday accused Chris Patten of being either misguided or a liar and charged him with doing Hong Kong "unique harm".

In a torrent of abuse from which even China might shrink, Sir Percy, once British Ambassador to Peking, also attacked the colony's Governor for what he called his "careerism".

In an article in the English-language *South China Morning Post*, Sir Percy, who played a leading role in the negotiations with Peking which led to the 1984 Sino-British agreement on transferring Hong Kong's sovereignty, concentrated his fire on Mr Patten's claim that the two sides undertook to bring democracy to Hong Kong. To claim this, Sir Percy said, Mr Patten "is either deluding himself or wilfully misleading his listeners".

The *South China Morning Post* fails to identify Sir Percy as one of its directors, although it mentions his past official posts back home in Britain. The Governor is "the principle author of the last four years' damage to Hong Kong, to which he has done unique harm". Sir Percy wrote, "and his likely motive is polishing his own image in Britain and America as a democratic crusader".

Sir Percy's attack comes as Mr Patten prepares to deliver his policy address to the Legislative Council tomorrow, the last such annual speech before next year's handover to China, which will be a valedictory and a look at Hong Kong's future under Peking's rule.

The essence of Sir Percy's position, which he has often stated, is that Britain, with its lease on Hong Kong about to expire, is limited in what it can achieve with a powerful China. "The obligation was to promote a degree of democracy that would last, not to put on a short self-serving show which would only provoke a Chinese backlash and leave Hong Kong worse off in terms of democracy than when the experiment began".



Cradock: criticised Governor's crusade

The response from Government House last night was: "Sir Percy is not the first mandarin to imagine he is an emperor." In a letter which appears today in the same newspaper, the Governor's office replies that Sir Percy "represents a genuine belief that the only way to deal with Peking is through appeasement". Mr Patten himself has always maintained that his plan for the Legislative Council to be wholly elected, as it was last year, was for a "modest degree of democracy". In its letter, Government House quotes Lady Thatcher describing the Sino-British agreement as providing "for a steady expansion of democracy in Hong Kong".

The Government House statement also quotes Baroness Young, Minister of State at the Foreign Office, as telling the House of Lords: "I fully accept the legitimate concerns which have been expressed that we should develop a solidly based democratic administration in Hong Kong in the period up to 1997."

Seoul troops kill fugitive from spy submarine

FROM ROBERT WHYMANT IN TOKYO

SOUTH KOREAN troops hunted down and killed a North Korean infiltrator in the search for remnants of an armed squad of "Communist guerrillas", the Defence Ministry in Seoul said yesterday.

Only three survivors are believed to be still at large in the mountainous area around Kangnung, where thousands of South Korean troops are concentrating the spy hunt. Yesterday's incident brought to 22 the total of infiltrators killed since entering the South after their submarine ran aground near Kangnung on September 18. Security forces have eliminated 11, and another 11 were found dead in an apparent suicide pact. Another man who was captured is believed to have told interrogators that 26 North Koreans were on board.

North Korea accused the South yesterday of cold-blooded murder. In a statement issued through its mission in Geneva, Pyongyang said Seoul was using the incident to distract attention from problems at home and difficulties in its relationship with America and Japan.

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Clinton: risky initiative

Clinton stakes his re-election on peace

FROM MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON

FIVE weeks before polling day President Clinton has just breached a cardinal rule of electoral politics. By inviting the Israeli and Palestinian leaders to an emergency summit in Washington today, he has placed himself in a risky political situation over which he has little control.

If the two-day encounter succeeds in putting the peace process back on track, Mr Clinton is likely to be acclaimed as a global statesman. But if it fails, Bob Dole will have further cause to portray him as a weak and ineffective steward of US foreign policy.

Neither Binyamin Netanyahu, the Israeli leader, nor Yassir Arafat, President of the Palestinian Authority, sound in any mood to compromise. They are "estranged", admitted Warren Christopher, the Secretary of State. Electoral fears could discourage Mr Clinton from pressuring Mr Netanyahu.

The Administration privately blames the fighting on Mr Netanyahu's stalling of the peace process and opening of the tunnel. Many American Jews regret the Prime Minister's stalling, but they would be far more alarmed if Mr Clinton sided with the Palestinians. The Jewish-American vote is important in key states like Florida, California and New York.

Mr Dole warned Mr Clinton not to impose a solution on Israel, but the Palestinians warned him not to go soft on Mr Netanyahu for electoral reasons. "We're willing to give him the photo opportunity that he is the President who can save the peace process — providing he is giving us substance," said Hanan Ashrawi, a top Arafat adviser.

A second reason the President has only limited leverage over Mr Netanyahu is that he openly backed his more dovish rival and predecessor, Shimon Peres, in last May's Israeli election.

Netanyahu rejects 'reward' to Arafat for bloodshed

FROM CHRISTOPHER WALKER IN JERUSALEM AND CHARLES BREMNER IN LUXEMBOURG

ON the eve of the crisis summit in Washington designed to salvage the Middle East peace process and prevent a war between Jews and Palestinians, the Israeli Government announced last night that it would be giving "no reward" to Yassir Arafat for last week's bloodshed.

Binyamin Netanyahu, the Israeli Prime Minister, told reporters on the aircraft taking him to the United States that he was ready to have nonstop negotiations with the Palestinians, starting next week, on an Israeli troop redeployment in Hebron and the Israeli closure of the West Bank and Gaza.

"I am proposing that the two sides meet right after the meeting in Washington in a locale to be determined to engage in continuous negotiations until agreement is reached," he said. Similar tactics were used at the Camp David talks in 1978 which led to the peace deal between Egypt and Israel. "Once agreement is reached on these issues, implementation can be immediate," Mr Netanyahu said.

Earlier, Mr Arafat had failed in attempts to have the summit delayed in order to work out an agenda more favourable to the Arab side, and after a day of playing, in the words of one cynical diplomat, "hard to get", he announced that he would be travelling to Luxembourg where he was seeking diplomatic backing from European Union foreign ministers.

In Luxembourg, Mr Arafat is hoping that Dick Spring, the Irish Foreign Minister and current president of the EU Foreign Affairs Council, will add the European voice to calls on Israel to show more flexibility. The EU's council last week issued an even-handed call for restraint, expressing "serious concern" over the violence in the occupied territories. France, which has been seeking to offer itself as an alternative to Washington as a Middle East broker, is pressing for the EU to take a tougher line with what is sees as Israeli intransigence and Washington's monopoly over diplomacy.

In addition to Mr Arafat and the Israeli team, King Husain of Jordan will also be present at the Washington talks, the State Department said. President Mubarak of Egypt will not attend.

The summit is taking place against a tinderbox atmosphere in the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza, where hundreds of Israeli tanks are poised to attack Palestinian towns if more anti-Israeli violence flares up. Security sources said they were concerned that Islamic extremist and hardline Jewish settlers opposed to the 1993 peace deal may try to exploit the situation. Although the fierce exchanges of recent days appeared to have been brought temporarily under control by the Palestinian police, there were numerous stone-throwing attacks on Israelis in and around east Jerusalem yesterday where religious Jews continued to throng through the disputed Hasmonean tunnel which the Israeli Government has vowed will never be closed.

The tough Israeli line was laid down by Moshe Fogel, the chief government spokesman, which emphasised the diplomatic problems facing President Clinton when he tries to engineer a successful conclusion to a meeting that, all sides admit, has been ill-prepared in advance.

"If the problems of the Palestinians are not given a proper answer, there will be an explosion much worse than you have just seen," said one young Palestinian in Bethlehem, scene of recent pitched battles with Israeli troops.

Mr Fogel warned Mr Arafat: "You cannot conduct negotiations with a gun to our head."

Hardening the claim that Mr Arafat cynically whipped up last week's clashes, which left 69 dead and nearly 1,500 injured and involved the worst fighting between Jews and Palestinians since the 1967 Middle East war, Mr Fogel said: "We are not going to be rewarding Mr Arafat for initiating such violence. Some of last week's actions are going to backfire [on him] because we are not going to reward terror diplomatically."

The last-minute doubts about the viability of the summit began when Mr Arafat travelled yesterday from Gaza to Egypt for talks with President Mubarak, who had set the closing of the Jerusalem tunnel, which runs for 500 yards in the Temple Mount area, as a condition for his attendance.

Egyptian officials were afraid that Mr Netanyahu would be able to emerge without making concessions and were angered that their suggestion of Cairo as a summit venue had been rejected by Israel. American diplomatic sources said that President Clinton planned to participate directly in the sessions beginning today.

Mr Netanyahu said before leaving that he would not discuss the opening of the new exit to the tunnel with Mr Arafat because it was Israel's business alone. "It will not be on my table," he told CNN.

Jerusalem: Israel is planning to demand that the Palestinian Authority tracks down and dismisses the 100 to 200 police who fired on its soldiers, police and settlers during last week's four days of fighting (Christopher Walker writes). An Israeli Defence Force officer said a full-scale investigation was under way, adding: "We will not agree to a situation in which IDF soldiers continue to work across from the same officers and policemen who fired and killed Israeli soldiers."



Yassir Arafat with an Egyptian official yesterday

KYODO



The Hanshin expressway linking Kobe and Osaka which was reopened yesterday after a six-mile section had been repaired and strengthened by arched steel plates

New highway rises above ruins of Kobe earthquake

FROM ROBERT WHYMANT IN TOKYO AND OUR FOREIGN STAFF

THE main artery linking Osaka and Kobe was reopened to traffic yesterday, 20 months after it was toppled by the earthquake of January 1995. Traffic began flowing on the Hanshin expressway after a ceremony to mark this new stage in the recovery of the region's economy.

The quake flattened much of Kobe and its vicinity, killing more than 6,000 people. Images of the collapse of a section of the elevated expressway, and the sagging pillars supporting it, brought home the extent of the destruction.

Officials said new engineering methods had enabled the reopening of the expressway three months earlier than expected. The road has been rebuilt to resist big earthquakes by reinforcing the reconstructed sections and columns along the length of the roadway, they said.

The reopening of the whole 24-mile highway linking Kobe with Osaka, came with the opening of a newly-repaired six-mile section. The cost of the work was estimated at about £1.3 billion.

Sixteen people were killed when the road collapsed. Many people have kept away from the area and local residents hope that reopening the expressway will bring them more tourists and business. The number of visitors to Kobe was 10.7 million people last year, a 56 per cent decrease from the previous year, according to local government officials.



The wrecked highway after the 1995 quake

While buildings and roads have been rebuilt, hundreds of victims are still facing difficulties, with deaths of quake victims continuing to be reported. The body of a 38-year-old Japanese man was found ten months after he died in a shelter built for people left homeless by the earthquake, police said.

The decomposed body of Masao Yamashita was found on Sunday in a prefabricated shelter in Port Island, located just south of Kobe's main city of Sannomiya. It was the 103rd case of "lone death" in such a shelter. The victim, who was jobless and lived alone on welfare, was reportedly suffering from a damaged liver.

About 40,000 families made homeless by the earthquake are still living in temporary lodgings, including 258 people in hostels.

While the official death toll from the quake was 6,300, citizen groups claim there have been a further 2,900 deaths from suicide or neglect. The groups say the toll could reach 10,000 by the end of the year.

☐ Taipei: A group of Taiwanese activists asserting that a chain of disputed islands were Chinese burnt a Japanese flag yesterday and set up a makeshift shrine to mourn David Chan, a Hong Kong protester, who drowned last week. Chan died trying to press China's claim to the Diaoyu islands, which are referred to as the Senkakus by the Japanese. *(AFP)*

Britain urges tough EU line on Burma

BY MICHAEL BINYON, DIPLOMATIC EDITOR

BRITAIN yesterday called for fresh international action against Burma, and will today urge its European Union partners to support new measures against the State Law and Order Restoration Committee (Slorc), the ruling army council.

The Foreign Office, strongly criticising the Burmese Government's action in preventing Aung San Suu Kyi, the opposition leader and Nobel laureate, from delivering a speech at the weekend, expressed concern at reports of widespread repression of pro-democracy supporters in Burma. "We strongly condemn the detention of members of the opposition National League for Democracy," it said.

Britain may urge its EU partners to impose new sanctions on the Burmese junta, which recently stepped up harassment of it opponents. A spokesman for Slorc admitted that 109 people were being detained in government guest houses.

Britain has instructed its ambassador in Rangoon to complain about the restrictions on freedom of speech and assembly directly to the ruling council.

Denmark has been pressing for sanctions against Burma since the suspicious death of James Nichols, its honorary consul and godfather to Daw Suu Kyi. Nichols, who also represented Finland, a member of the EU, and Norway and Switzerland, was arrested in April and sentenced to three years in prison for operating home telephones and fax machines without permission.

The National League for Democracy had planned to hold a three-day party congress beginning last Friday, but the regime said that the meeting was illegal and detained party members for questioning.

Japan, Burma's biggest aid donor, expressed concern yesterday at the developments in Rangoon, with a government spokesman, Seiroku Kajiyama, telling a news conference: "The freedom of political parties to conduct their activities must be recognised."

Tokyo suspended some big aid projects after bloody crackdowns on pro-democracy forces in 1988, but has held off from using its aid of about £90 million a year as a lever to ensure that the country moves towards democracy.

In the past, Britain has opposed sanctions unless they can be agreed at the United Nations.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Life is rich for King's assailant

Los Angeles: Four years after being captured on videotape brutally beating the black motorist Rodney King, Stacey Koon, a former police sergeant, is a free man — and a multimillionaire (Giles Whittell writes).

In a crowning irony to the case that exposed the racial schisms of inner-city America, the policeman — convicted of violating Mr King's civil rights — has emerged by some estimates $8 million (£5.1 million) richer thanks to legal defence and trust funds for his family. Mr King won damages of $3.8 million.

Computer king tops $18.5bn

New York: There are 41 more American billionaires this year than last, *Forbes* magazine has found (Quentin Letts writes). Top of the pile again are Bill Gates of Microsoft with $18.5 billion (£11.8 billion) and the stock market player Warren Buffett, with $15 billion. The magazine identified 1996 as the year of the billionaire boom, thanks to a buoyant Wall Street and the growing computer market.

Lyons court tries Scientologists

Paris: Twenty-three members of the Church of Scientology went on trial in Lyons, accused of crimes ranging from manslaughter to fraud (Ben Macintyre writes). The trial stems from the suicide of a Scientologist. The Lyons appeal court, which allowed the trial, described the sect as "a major threat to democratic society".

Surgery date

Rome: The Pope, 76, will have surgery next week to remove his appendix, the Vatican said. It said audiences would be suspended from Monday, but it did not say when the pontiff would go to hospital. *(Reuter)*

Children's plight

Cologne: Unicef said millions of children were still dying from hunger and disease and the situation had barely improved in six years, despite its pledge to fight the problem at a 1990 summit. *(Reuter)*

Cells 'of death'

Nairobi: Kenyan jails are "dungeons of death" where inmates are tortured, denied medical care and forced to share cells with corpses, a Kenya Human Rights Commission report said. *(AFP)*

Poll success

Moscow: Russia's opposition communists celebrated the election of Vadim Gustov, a candidate they backed, as governor of the Leningrad region around St Petersburg. *(Reuter)*

Vanuatu vote

Port Vila: The Vanuatu Government of Maxime Carlot was toppled by a no-confidence vote in the South Pacific nation's parliament. Serge Vohor, an opposition coalition leader, replaces him. *(Reuter)*

Hard-nosed

Bucharest: Residents of Braila in eastern Romania face fines of up to £200 for blowing their noses in public under proposals by the Romanian Ecology Party. Spitting will also be an offence. *(AFP)*

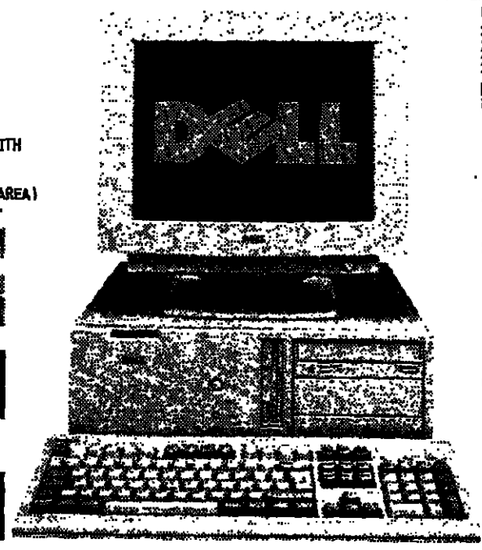
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Onset of winter spells danger for warlords hunted by Afghanistan's holy army

Taleban overruns more cities in push to capture north

FROM CHRISTOPHER THOMAS IN KABUL

THE Taleban students' army moved north with its mass of tanks and artillery yesterday, capturing new provinces in a relentless drive through the deserts of Afghanistan.

The fighters now control more than two-thirds of the country. Northern warlords are massed with thousands of troops for perhaps the most decisive battle in recent Afghan history. The worsening weather will be key in determining what happens next.

Taleban is pursuing thousands of government troops who have fled to a redoubt in the northeast through the strategic 1.6-mile Salang tunnel in the Hindu Kush. Their escape routes over mountain passes will be blocked by snow within a few weeks, leaving them besieged for the harsh winter when large-scale fighting will be impossible.

Taleban last night reached the southern mouth of the tunnel. The only direct route from the northeast is now severed. The turbaned, long-haired holy army seems invincible. Mullah Muhammad Rabbani, head of a six-man council ruling Kabul, is now arguably the most powerful man in the land.

He consulted his top commanders yesterday at his headquarters in the Presidential Palace, symbolically protected by a decrepit Russian tank parked at the ornate iron gates at the entrance. Taleban soldiers have spread brightly coloured artificial flowers across the rusting hulk in a gesture to peace.

The long-bearded commanders sat on leather armchairs in a large, carpeted conference room in the old presidential office as crystal chandeliers clinked in a breeze wafting through smashed windows. Their vehicles, the spoils of war, were lined up outside: mostly stolen Mitsubishi Pajeros brought in by smugglers from Central Asia, as well as one dust-covered black Mercedes limousine



that used to be the official car of the Minister of Security.

The morale, strength and resources of Taleban are the product of massive outside support: its claim to have no foreign backing is absurd. Pakistan is plainly involved. America may also secretly support Taleban, for all the group's Islamic fundamentalism, because it can impose stability on a strategically important region and is vehemently anti-Communist.

There is a precedent for this: the largest covert operation in the history of the CIA was mounted in support of Islamic fundamentalists in Afghanistan to oust the Soviet Union, which invaded in 1979. The new foreign involvement echoes those catastrophic Cold War interventions, which left a legacy of guns and drugs.

Ten per cent of the population, about a million people, died in the superpowers' proxy war.

The new interventionists are Iran, Saudi Arabia, Uzbekistan, Tajikistan, India and Russia, which are backing various factions directly or indirectly for a variety of reasons. Huge resources from heroin production feeds the fighting. Russia printed billions of Afghan banknotes for the ousted Kabul Government, helping it to stay afloat despite being bankrupt.

Mullah Rabbani has two key opponents: General Rashid Dostum, the Uzbek warlord from the north, and Ahmed Shah Masood, military chief of the ousted regime. General Dostum has perhaps 20,000 men under arms. Thousands are now at the northern end of the Salang tunnel, awaiting any Taleban attempt to break through.

Mr Masood and his vanquished army is cornered in his Panshir Valley stronghold with the former President, Burhanuddin Rabbani and Gulbuddin Hekmatyar, the former Prime Minister. Mr Hekmatyar, the principal recipient of billions of dollars of American aid during the Cold War, no longer has an army.

Charikar, capital of the northern Parwan province, fell to Taleban yesterday, as did the key town of Jabalussaraj. Taleban's success is due to its reputation for discipline, making it relatively popular even among non-Pashtuns who are sick of 17 years of war.

Meanwhile women in Kabul, the capital, who have been banned by Taleban from working outside the home, drew small comfort yesterday from an announcement that female civil servants would continue receiving salaries. They are furious at being forced into purdah.

Men have been given six weeks to grow full beards or face severe punishment.

Leading article, page 17

Ban on prayers for Najibullah

Kabul: Official radio here reported that the Taleban militia had banned Afghans paying final respects to Muhammad Najibullah, the former President summarily killed last week.

"Since he was corrupt, a member of the KGB and an adulterer, he did not have the right to a defence and was already condemned," a "religious police" unit said. "Nobody is allowed to offer funeral prayers for him anywhere in the country." (AFP)



Residents of Charikar, 40 miles north of Kabul, cheer as the Taleban militia enters the city yesterday. There was little resistance from government forces

Fall of Kabul takes Bhutto by surprise

BY MICHAEL EVANS, DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

BENAZIR BHUTTO, the Pakistani Prime Minister, said yesterday she hoped her country could have a moderating influence on the new Taleban regime in Afghanistan.

Miss Bhutto "categorically denied" that Pakistan had supported the Taleban movement in its campaign to seize Kabul but she said she was now hopeful that the change in government would end the bloodshed in Afghanistan.

On a visit to London, she said that Pakistan had agreed to act as a channel for Western arms and money during the occupation by Soviet troops. In exchange, Pakistan had been given $4.2 billion (£2.7 billion) in aid by the United States for the purchase of military equipment. However, since the Kremlin had withdrawn its forces, the money from the US had stopped and Pakistan had not been in a position to arm or finance the Taleban. Miss Bhutto, addressing the International Institute for Strategic Studies, said that Pakistan had no intention of interfering in the internal affairs of a neighbouring country.

Afghanistan, she said, had been facing turmoil ever since "foreign troops" went in. She said the world grew tired of Afghanistan and turned its attention elsewhere, such as Bosnia and the Middle East. "We didn't expect the Taleban to take control in Kabul," she stated.

Miss Bhutto added: "The situation is still fluid. But if there is stability and an end to bloodshed, we in Pakistan hope we'll be a moderating influence."

☐ Border closed: Thousands of people were stranded and Red Cross relief supplies were refused entry after Taleban closed the main Torkham border crossing between Afghanistan and Pakistan without notice yesterday. (AP)

Moscow shudders at militant Muslim threat on borders

FROM THOMAS DE WAAL IN MOSCOW

RUSSIA is reacting with dismay and dread to the Taleban advance through Afghanistan, which has swept aside old allies and enemies alike.

There may have been some satisfaction at the humiliation of Ahmed Shah Masood, the partisan commander who harried the Russians in the 1980s. But there have been shudders at the summary killing of the last pro-Moscow leader, Muhammad Najibullah, by Taleban.

Mikhail Gorbachev, the former Soviet President, called the killing of Najibullah a "lynching and a kind of savagery", while Yuli Vorontsov, the Russian Ambassador in Kabul at the time of the Soviet troop withdrawal and now Russian Ambassador in Washington, painted a sympathetic portrait of the former President in a television interview. Najibullah, he said, was a "well-read", cultured man who did not deserve his reputation as a mass murderer. Afghanistan has faded from Russian public memory since the military pullout in 1989. The Chechen war is much closer to home and has been shown more vividly on television. But there is a small group of Russians who were involved in the war and for whom it is still an obsession. Many of them feel that Moscow betrayed its Afghan friends, and may now be reaping the cost.

"After discussions with people who have fought in Afghanistan and are now in Moscow at the Defence Ministry, I found a lot of people saying we should not have stopped helping the Najibullah regime after the Soviet collapse," Artyom Borovik, who was one of the most famous Russian correspondents in the Afghan war, said yesterday. "We made a big mistake and now a belt o Muslim fundamentalist state is being created in the under belly of the former Sovie Union."

The worry in Moscow now is that Taleban's successe have upset the balance o forces in Afghanistan and thi could reignite the war i Tajikistan. Russia already ha thousands of troops on th Tajik frontier against raid from Islamic rebels based i Afghanistan. President Yeltsi once declared that "the Tajik frontier is essentially the fron tier of Russia". The Foreig Ministry called the situatio "fraught with danger for inter national peace and the stabi ity of the region".

There is an instinctive fea of Islamic fundamentalism i Russia. Pavel Felgenhauer the military journalist, wrot that "Tajikistan cannot b held" if a jihad is launche from across the border.

Nazi gold inquiry to go ahead

FROM PETER CAPELLA IN GENEVA

THE lower house of the Swiss parliament yesterday approved a commission of inquiry into the nation's financial dealings with Nazi Germany after a debate which showed unease with Switzerland's banking establishment.

The main political parties, stung by the tone of accusations from Britain and the United States, decided to restrict proceedings to formal party statements. Although the primary aim was to avoid xenophobic speeches by extreme right-wing MPs, some left-wing deputies complained that it also prevented them from challenging banking secrecy laws.

The commission of independent financial and legal experts, which is likely to clear approval in the Senate in December, has the power temporarily to lift banking secrecy in the course of its five-year inquiry.

It is expected to start work next spring and will look into all aspects of financial dealings with Nazi Germany after 1933, from gold transactions by the National Bank to the fate of private accounts.

The experts will work in parallel with another investigation headed by a former chief of the US Federal Reserve, Paul Volcker.

French schools closed as teachers strike over cuts

FROM BEN MACINTYRE IN PARIS

SCHOOLS across France closed yesterday as teachers launched the autumn's first big strike in protest at government austerity plans to cut the deficit in time for European monetary union.

Unions claimed more than 80 per cent of primary teachers and more than 60 per cent of secondary staff responded to the strike call against moves to eliminate more than 5,000 school jobs. The Government said support for the strike was not so great, with fewer than 60 per cent taking action in primary schools, but conceded that disruption had been widespread.

The administration of Alain Juppé, the Prime Minister, yesterday unveiled an "anti-poverty plan" which aims to create 300,000 jobs over the next five years. All would be for at least 30 hours a week, paying about Fr5,500 (£720) a month — met by the employer and the Government.

The plan, which also envisages creating 100,000 subsidised housing units, will cost an estimated Fr500 million in its first year and will be financed by diverting funds from other programmes, Jacques Barrot, the Social Affairs Minister, said.

Unions hailed yesterday's strike as a significant victory and a harbinger of further unrest unless the Government backs off from a 1997 budget designed to meet the Maastricht criteria for a single currency by reducing next year's budget deficit to 3 per cent of gross domestic product.



Juppé: stands accused of ignoring unions

The strike was the first for four years in which the five main teaching unions, representing nearly 900,000 staff and usually divided, have coordinated action. The Government has insisted the job cuts are justified by falling birth-rates and has pledged to create 2,700 higher education posts.

Teacher unions staged demonstrations in 60 towns and cities. In Paris, a crowd of several thousand marched from the Sorbonne to the Education Ministry, and more than 2,000 paraded through Bordeaux, where M Juppé is Mayor. The protests were joined by numerous students, key players in last winter's strikes, who claim education cuts will worsen already chronic overcrowding and bring dwindling standards.

The high turnout is likely to boost union confidence in a massive show of strength on October 17, when civil service unions and rail workers will strike for 24 hours.

In the past few days, sporadic strike action has been building with stoppages by airline, utility and ambulance workers, who are demanding greater job security and protesting at spending cuts and restructuring plans. The protests have taken on fresh urgency with the release of figures showing unemployment at 12.6 per cent last month, a record high.

Marc Blondel, head of the powerful Force Ouvrière, yesterday accused the Government of ignoring the unions, saying: "Since last October, Juppé's Labour Affairs Minister has not called me once."

☐ Bonn: Tens of thousands of workers at Daimler-Benz, Germany's biggest industrial concern, will demonstrate today as part of a nationwide wave of anger against a government cut in sick pay. (AFP)

Austerity budget, page 32

Rumblings over Kremlin silver dining set

FROM THOMAS DE WAAL IN MOSCOW AND ROGER BOYES IN BONN

THE Kremlin has emulated the tsars by ordering a hand-made, 6,000-piece silver service from Germany to entertain its guests, while the elderly are going without pensions, according to the opposition.

The order was made in February to the German firm of Robbe und Berking. Among the items now being used in four government guest houses are 40 silver caviare dishes, 20 champagne buckets and 20 sauce boats, each inscribed with a double-headed eagle. The pieces are individually made by workers who wear white gloves so as not to sully the silver.

Oliver Berking, the owner of the company, said the order was one of the most extensive in the firm's 120-year history, but he would not specify a price, saying only it cost "significantly below" one million marks (about £420,000). However Radio Mayak, Russia's most popular radio station, estimated the price at several million marks. The state-funded station, which is on the brink of bankruptcy, used the incident to complain that the state budget is being squandered.

The presidential buildings in the Kremlin have been restored and refitted at enormous cost and millions are already being spent on new statues of Peter the Great and Nicholas II in time for the 850th anniversary of the founding of Moscow next year. Opposition politicians say this is immoral when some pensions and state sector salaries have not been paid for months.

"The current regime are parasites when it comes to consumption," said Aleksei Mitrofanov, chief lieutenant of the extreme nationalist Vladimir Zhirinovsky.

"It all reminds me of 1916 and 1917 when they were again buying from Germany and they pretended to be surprised when the Bolsheviks appeared. It can't carry on, when 97 per cent of the population lives in penury," he said.

The purchase is in the tradition of Catherine the Great, who bought the famous Orlov dinner service from France in the 18th century — although it consisted of a mere 2,500 pieces.



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Day 2: Bel Mooney on her feelings as she reaches the exciting uplands of her fiftieth year

'It has taken me 50 years to realise love is what really matters'

CHRIS HARRIS



Bel Mooney on reaching her half-century: "Thirty? Nah — I don't want to be 30 again. Not with the fire in me now"

At the front of my Filofax (old habits die hard) I have written a number of quotations which I look at every day. One from Samuel Beckett seems to offer more and more consolation: "No matter. Try again. Fail again. Fail better."

Why talk of failure at 50? Because this is part of that "letting go". It seems wise to move on from the arrogance of the twenties and thirties, and the mingled complacency and cynicism of the forties, into that state of humility which is (as T. S. Eliot wrote) "endless". To acknowledge your mistakes, to hope that you can "fail better", seems a fitting replacement for the sexual vanity and vainglorious dreams of acclaim, and foolish expectations of perfection which I confess to as the sins of my youth.

At 30 I used to admire the in-your-face sentiment of Piaf: *Je ne regrette rien*, and imagine that in middle-age I'd shout it from the rooftops. Now it is not so simple. I do regret things, and the act of regretting allows in a kind of awe at the miracle of survival: My God, aren't I lucky? Then, dazzled, you are liberated at last to look forward, not backwards. Another of the daily maxims is from Ibsen: "Live, work, act. Don't sit here and brood and grope among insoluble enigmas."

The chief feeling is one of relief. To acknowledge that you have no answers (now as you tiptoe into the second half-century, knowing that this bit is downhill all the way) is the first step to wondering if you were asking the right questions. It feels like stumbling into a strange room in a power cut, and groping out of habit for the light switch ... fumble ... then snap, the power is on after all, and you step forward, looking around and realising that you knew this place all along. You belong.

> 'It seems wise to move on into a state of humility'

Some experiences concentrate the mind most wonderfully. They may be personal, but are so sublime that to hug them to your chest seems selfish.

On August 28, after six months of deteriorating health, our daughter Kitty (16), endured over eight hours of major, difficult surgery on her bowel. For weeks before I walked around in shadow, convinced she would not survive. She shared the terrible dread. Early in the morning of August 29 she opened her eyes in intensive care, painfully reached out a punctured hand, and said in a clear, sweet voice, "Mummy, I didn't die. And I'm going to get better".

All I could say was, "Yes".

It occurred to me then that if it has taken me 50 years to know, finally, what I had always suspected — that nothing else matters — then I am overjoyed to have arrived at last.

The knowledge comes hard. In the summer Kitty and I attended the funeral of a 15-year-old girl who died of cancer on her ward. She had made friends with another teenager who is unlikely to live beyond 20. At midnight after her operation I spent an hour talking to a young couple whose baby has spent three months at home, and six months in hospital, and who has but a small chance of survival ... and I recognised that look of dumb bewilderment on their faces.

Sometimes I have felt shrunken, like Alice, and scrabbling desperately to swim in my own tears. Suffer the little children indeed, here and all around the world, and no answer to the painful scream, "Why?"

Then, on the ward, day after day you are privileged to witness the extraordinary patient love of parents of every age, race and class; the gentle gaiety, understanding and brilliance of the nurses; the acute concern and dedicated skill of the doctors — one in particular, there in Bristol Children's Hospital, who has the grace and courage to cry when my daughter cries ...

How can you not delight in a world with such people in it? Brave and new indeed. Their countless murmurs of tenderness and encouragement, and little jokes, and family stories, together swell to an Ode to Joy which drowns out the shrieks of fear and pain. So there, for me, was one of the elusive answers. The God-shaped hole in my universe is filled with people, some known to me, some unknown. The indisputable fact of heroism, all over the world, weighs equal in the scales with the horror and the hatred. To the question, "What are we here for?", Ibsen's, "Think, work, act", is still a fine answer. But it falls short. Thinking, working and acting are nothing unless impelled by the most important imperative: Love.

A close friend, 50 next month, said to me, "Getting old physically doesn't bother me — the spare tyre, double chin, and hairy toes! What's far more sobering is to know that maybe I've had more than two-thirds of my life. I do think more and more about spiritual things".

She is a Christian, but for years has understood my own longing for God and failure to find him. Recently (maybe as a result of being in Bosnia) I stopped looking, but the spiritual search still goes on, both in churches and in fields close to home. When I pray, it is to the Universe, vast and implacable though it is, and *if* that is God, then this Earth itself is my Christ, with the Holy Spirit the air we breathe ... a Trinity worth worshipping and crusading for.

Interestingly, another fiftieth birthday this year is that of the Soil Association, which goes on patiently beating the drum for organic agriculture.

Maybe another sign of my age is that it actually feels more relevant to my life now than *Woman's Hour*'s birthday; I passionately believe that unless we step back from the arrogant folly which has led us to abuse this planet in so many ways, we are doomed. This is beyond gender and party politics. I sit on our hillside, gaze at the beauty of the land, and find another answer. "*Mummy, I didn't die*", means that she and all children, those as yet unborn, have the right to demand their inheritance intact.

The good thing about the baby-boom generation is that we preached tolerance, and the brotherhood of people, and in that respect our hearts were in the right place — on the sleeve. Mine is still there, a bit battered after all the wear and tear, but full of enthusiasm. That is the way we were, and if you can go on, "still crazy after all these years", despite admissions of failure — then you do know who you are.

So — I still believe that the idea of trade unionism is a necessary counter-balance to the lust of the powerful for profit. I still believe in public spending and the National Health Service, and that those who can afford it should stump up high taxes. I believe the needs of children are paramount. I want a fresh start with new Labour, but a return to some of the values and disciplines I grew up with. I wait for the day when the Prince of Wales is recognised for the infinitely gentle, farseeing, hardworking, intelligent, spiritual and utterly civilised force for good that he is. (OK, so he made a mistake: so did I — lots.) It *will* come. Despite all the proofs coming in, and despite my rage, I carry a torch of optimism. But I won't buy anybody's package deal or belief.

Alice grew up. She left wonderland behind, and stepped through a looking glass, into her own kitchen, scene of so many years' loving domesticity. It's not that I don't want to go to the party any more; it's here in my own home.

In May I stayed up all night with my son, drinking and smoking and talking, and at five in the morning we tottered on a long walk in the valley. Then he slumped the rest of the day asleep in bed, and I spent it at the hospital. I said, "Don't think me old, boy, until you can keep up!" Despite my children's mirth I've booked a first riding lesson for my birthday, because I want to go trekking in the Andes in a year's time, sleeping under the stars. I walk at midnight with the labrador and collie I bought my husband, amazed by my solitude, the night, and the fact that I used to detest dogs.

> 'I have a number of quotations which I look at every day'

As the sunlight fills the kitchen, and I reach 50, I put on Beethoven's *Spring* (or maybe Clapton's *Timepieces*) and raise a glass to some things changing and some things staying the same.

To the family and friends without whom I could not live. To the husband of nearly 29 years whose silly sayings I love. To the fact that our son is engaged to a girl beautiful in every respect, so that I can finally "come out" and say that my chief ambition is to be a grandmother. To the day when finally our daughter will leave hospital forever. *Nothing else matters.*

Then, to all the writers (dead and alive) whose books line my library, because their insights cannot be destroyed by the grossest anti-culture. To art and music. Even to the people I disagree with because they keep me on my toes. To "cakes and ale". To infinite possibility ...

Where to stop? There's no time to stop.

Thirty? Nah — I don't want to be 30 again.

Not with the fire in me now.

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Wilder at heart: Can Gene put some zest into the West End in Laughter on the 23rd Floor?

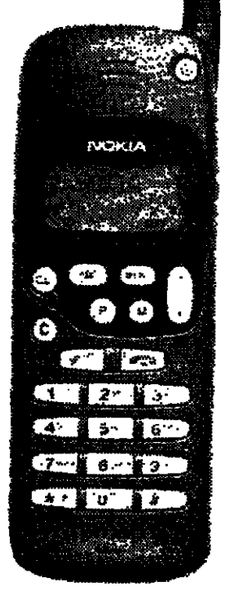
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Why I sacked Michael Flatley

Producer Moya Doherty tells how she dismissed Riverdance's biggest star. Interview by **Jason Cowley**



Michael Flatley, in white shirt, performing in *Riverdance*, the successful Irish show. But his demands became too much, says Moya Doherty, the producer, and the decision was taken to let him go

Moya Doherty is seldom lost for words. Ask her, for instance, about her role as *producer of Riverdance*, the Irish dance spectacular that has generated about £30 million in 20 *months, and she delivers* a monologue encompassing the Irish diaspora, the physical demands of hard-shoe dancing and, more perplexingly, Anne Diamond — they worked together at TV-am in the late Eighties.

But ask her about Michael Flatley, the former star of *Riverdance* who she sacked in October last year on the eve of the show's return to London, and she falls silent. Not for long, though, for their dispute is a wound which Mr Flatley insists on reopening but which Ms Doherty says she wants to heal.

While Mr Flatley has spent *the past year complaining* about his sacking, Ms Doherty has said nothing. She claims not to have seen *Lord of the Dance*, the show he set up as a rival to *Riverdance*, though she knows enough about its gaudy, Vegas-style extravagance to dismiss it as "not what we would have done".

On the question of her prolonged silence, she says: "I didn't want our dispute to be played out in the media. I have the highest admiration for Michael as a dancer and choreographer but he was and is a solo player. He found it hard being part of a troupe and not having the control he wanted. Tension grew between us making it almost impossible to conclude contractural negotiations."



Moya Doherty: suffered

When, in June 1995, *Riverdance* moved from the Point Theatre in Dublin to the 3,200-seat Hammersmith Apollo, Mr Flatley was earning £50,000 a week. A cult of personality developed around him. It was his name and face on the posters and flyers, and his 30ft image was displayed outside the Apollo like a benign dictator.

Naturally his co-star, fellow Irish-American Jean Butler, felt slighted and excluded. She had once received equal-billing but, according to *Riverdance* insiders, as Mr Flatley became more demanding so Ms Butler was demoted to co-star: "Michael wanted complete artistic control." Doherty says. "His demands were too much. For example, he wanted no other male to dance solo with him — things we couldn't possibly allow."

Sacking Mr Flatley gave her no pleasure: "I suffered hugely. I didn't want to lose him and would have liked him to dance in America."

But why did she leave it so late to dismiss him, especially as his understudy, Colin Dunne, had only a few hours in which to prepare? "Surely the lateness of the sacking shows our desire to reach agreement with him," she counters. "All along we had constantly moved the goalposts to accommodate his demands. We tried to find common ground. Michael was being paid an awful lot of money. He sold himself as the highest paid dancer of all time — he probably was."

> 'When the show moved from Dublin to Hammersmith, Michael Flatley was earning £50,000 a week'

Mr Flatley describes his sacking as the most devastating moment of his career. "I was raring to go on stage the next night. I felt like a stallion. Then the lawyer rang and the bottom fell out of my world. I stood staring out of the window.

"My father called me and I was close to tears. I'm very sensitive. He said, 'Mike, you created *Riverdance*, you can create another one'."

But Mr Flatley did *not* create *Riverdance*. He was principal cheographer and dancer, but the idea was exclusively Ms Doherty's. As a freelance producer at the TV station RTE in Dublin, she devised *Riverdance* as a seven-minute interval entertainment at the 1994 Eurovision Song Contest. The performance was rapturously received.

With the *Riverdance* single topping the Irish charts for 18 weeks, and the *Riverdance for Rwanda* video — a recording of the Eurovision sequence — selling 100,000 copies in a month, demand for a longer, more complete performance was overpowering.

"I knew that we had created something marvellous with *Riverdance* and had to act quickly to make the most of it," says Ms Doherty. She raised £500,000 from investors, including Paul McGuiness, manager of the pop band U2. Bill Whelan composed the music in three months and Mr Flatley had even less time to choreograph the main dances. The Point was booked at a cost of £70,000 a week, with the opening night scheduled for Feburary 21, 1995.

"The pressures and strains were immense. We stood to lose a lot of money. I lost weight, my sleep patterns were disturbed and I saw very little of my two young sons [Mark, seven, and Daniel, four]. Yet, because the project had been tested in front of 300 million Eurovision viewers, I sensed that we couldn't fail."

Her instinct proved correct: *Riverdance: The Show* reached £1 million sales in three weeks. In June, the show transferred to London and immediately sold out.

It is now on its third run at the Hammersmith Apollo. It opened at Radio City Music Hall in New York in March, and a full US tour will start on Saturday.

Yet success has been marred by conflict. In interviews, Mr Flatley repeatedly hints at Doherty's ruthlessness, and there is something forbidding in her manner. Small talk is kept to a minimum. She never allows you to forget that she is a reluctant interviewee.

Born in Donegal in March 1958, her parents were both teachers. The family moved to Dublin in the early Sixties. She joined RTE in the late Seventies then moved to London and worked for four years at TV-am as a reporter, returning to Ireland in 1989. "It feels tremendously good to be Irish at the moment. *Riverdance* emerged at roughly the same time as the peace process, and as one who is proud of my country but opposed to violence, I feel much better about calling myself a nationalist," she says.

Determined, rich beyond her wildest expectations and restlessly ambitious, Ms Doherty seeks to take *Riverdance* to a global audience. "One show cannot satisfy the demand. Our goal is to have three or four shows touring the world."

So Mr Flatley's dismissal confirmed that the strength of the show lay not in its star but in its collective virality. "Getting rid of Michael was a traumatic decision. But I had this deep rooted faith in the show. What his departure has done is to give others the freedom to dance that role. It has also given us the confidence to experiment, so that *Riverdance* can grow to reach even more people."

Playing by the rules

What is the etiquette governing behaviour between first and second wives asks **Maureen Freely?**



The First Wives Club stars: Hawn, Keaton and Midler

When a man marries early, encourages his wife to put home and children first, and then replaces her with a younger model, what are the rules of the game? For example, how far should the first wife be indulged if she becomes obstructive or abusive? When should the second wife graciously accept second place, and when should she insist on her rights? Should the man keep his first family in the style to which it is accustomed and expect his second wife to do the same for him?

No two pundits agree. Some, like the makers of the new film, *The First Wives Club*, seem to think that any discarded wife has the right and the duty to get even. Others like Val Corbett, Joyce Hopkirk and Eve Pollard, in their new blockbuster about serial spouses, *The Best of Enemies*, suggest there is a bigger, better Hollywood ending awaiting all those who stop thinking like dependants and start talking like Susie Orbach. But does life ever work quite as neatly as their plot does? Having tormented, and suffered, at the hands of two wives myself, I would give anything to say yes. Alas, the best I can do is say yes, but.

Yes of course it is healthier for all parties concerned if they accept that vows are not what they used to be and move on. But it is far more satisfying, in the short term anyway, to shunt the blame onto someone else. Certainly I spent the happiest years of my first marriage doing just that.

My voodoo doll's name was Flora. When I walked onto the scene, she was still the legal wife but had already become a radical feminist. My husband-to-be was still trying to make sense of it all, and I was happy to help him so long as he kept the picture black and white and two dimesional. If he sighed they had both been too young. I would cry, "no! no!". It was all down to that vixen. I did have a jolt, though, the only time I met her, she was neither as bad nor as beautiful as the rival of my imagination. Maybe that is why I was so keen not to meet the first wife of my present partner.

My new love was a long-suffering saint who had brought up his children alone while his wife Ruby sat in bed reading mystery stories. No wonder he ended up finding solace elsewhere.

Imagine how shocked I was the first time he brought his children to stay. It was not just that he plopped into the nearest armchair, opened the newspaper, and left the entertainment to me. It was the reproach of the children's overnight bag. Everything in it was neatly folded and ironed, even the underwear. I had just convinced myself that she had done it to spite me, when my new love asked if I had got round yet to ironing his sheets. I came dangerously close to having to face the truth that day. But Ruby had a healthy vindictive streak. "How much longer is she going to go on tormenting me?" I remember wailing to my best friend. I was left speechless when she said: "Oh don't worry, she'll let up when he leaves you for someone else. Then you can sit up all night discussing what a bastard he is."

Never! I thought. But I have to admit, I have seen quite a few first and second wives brought together by wife number three. There is my friend Sara, a first wife who spent years foaming at the mouth about Mara, who "stole her husband away". Then, only hours after she's heard he's left Mara for Lara, she is blowing smoke through her nose and saying, "It looks as if I may have got out just in time."

Most serial husbands I know long for the day when their warring wives learn to co-operate. I am not so sure they should. I cannot help remembering the three-parent family I met on holiday. Two of the parents were married to each other. The third was the man's ex. At first I was amazed at how beautifully they behaved with one another. And they never neglected the children in the way normal two-parent families do. If a child so much as formed his lips in such a way as to suggest the word "juice", both mothers were on their feet. Then it was a three-course meal, an impromptu science lecture, five hours with a book of brain-twisters, and a songfest.

The father of all these children was not so lucky. If he so much as asked for the salt during supper, they rolled their eyes at each other and said: "There he goes again". After the dishes were done they launched into a long conversation about the national curriculum and did not even notice when he sloped off to the pub.

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Pupils must come before the tables

Culling unpromising sixth-formers is cynical and indefensible

I know a man whose Lottery fantasy is to set up a charitable foundation to prove certain people wrong. He will make television programmes turned down by Alan Yentob and win awards with them. He will reopen hospital wards and make medical history, and back businesses which have been unfairly dropped by timid banks so that they succeed (and with luck, buy up the banks).

Yesterday he would have been on the phone to a number of 17-year-olds with a simple offer: a free place at a good sixth-form college so that, well taught, they could get their grades and conquer the world and forever embarrass the heads who chucked them out as no-hopers who were imperilling their schools' places in the league tables. The charity would be called the Yah Boo Sucks Foundation.

Alas, it does not exist. We must merely hope that some of the scores of adolescents who are being rejected in this manner will find their own way on and up. That they exist is in no doubt. Private crammers say that since the league tables began four years ago, there has been a sharp rise in pupils who join half-way through their A-level courses. Not only independents but state schools are pressing "weak" candidates to withdraw from subjects at the end of the first year of the sixth form. Elizabeth Rickards, of a London tutorial college, says "some schools are being absolutely ruthless", and questions what becomes of the rejects who cannot afford eight thousand quid to pick up the pieces privately. She cites a pupil on an assisted place who was thrown out because of weak maths and was not even allowed to do her other subjects. Not all schools even bother to deny this policy; the principal of Queen's College in London says heartily: "If I were in the horse world, I would not put horses over hurdles they could not jump."

Libby Purves

The more competitive state schools are moving rapidly in the same direction: some parents express surprise that the London Oratory, for instance, where Tony Blair's son is going, makes a point of not giving up on weak candidates. Their surprise gives a clue as to how attitudes have shifted in the most ambitious schools. It is true that in the public sector a fig-leaf is generally proffered: commenting on the revelations of Ms Rickards yesterday, the head of one comprehensive in York demurred about "the student's best interests. If someone were doing disastrously, it would not be fair to let them carry on." Not fair? Why, exactly? Don't answer that. The rise in lower-sixth pupils chucked out since league tables suggests that these "best interests" have curiously come to coincide with the best interests of ambitious heads.

Most notoriously of all, and a clear target for the Yah Boo Sucks Foundation, is Roy Chapman of Malvern College. He is the very man who told the Headmasters' Conference in 1994 that public schools fill "the gaping moral vacuum in society". He has admitted that the reason he has thrown out nine lower-sixth pupils in the past two years is that they "would have reflected on our league table performance . . . made a big difference to our points total and final position".

They were, he says, all idle; but if the points total matters that much, and schools are so confident about their internal predictions (which are often wrong, as thousands of recent A-level candidates know to their chagrin), then how long will it be before it becomes acceptable to admit to routinely chucking out those who are just a bit dim, or whose parents' divorce has upset them in the lower sixth, or who suffer a bout of glandular fever or a ghastly love affair?

Mr Chapman did prudently add, "We are not going to chop the weak who really try"; but laziness in teenagers has many and complex causes. The impression given, to this parent at least, is that league tables are starting to matter more than children. Otherwise, why didn't he throw out the bone idle ones in the days before league tables? It can't have been just because they were paying fees, perish the thought. Mr Chapman must have believed that there was still something the school could do for them. Urge them on, try to interest them, find a GNVQ that would suit them better if the academic course was wrong; slate them, gate them, motivate them, that sort of thing. But now, the precious "points total and final position" forbid such efforts. Out with them quick, before they besmirch our image!

It stinks. It suggests, if you like, a gaping moral vacuum. For one thing, 18 is a curious age, and "mock" results are not infallible. I was firmly predicted to fail Latin, largely because I was chucked out of the Roman history class for having an irrational hatred of the teacher. In the end I crammed alone and managed a D and a Latin-dependent university place. Any honest school could find far more striking examples of recoveries, surprises and unpredicted disasters too, all fuelled by the volatile and fluctuating energies of youth.

More importantly, even if the school predictors are right and the pupil is going to scrape two E grades, that is no reason to give up. Those Es might represent a lot to a child who has had difficulties. Or they might shock an idle and arrogant one into humbly resitting the exams a year later and winning. A school's job is to understand and help pupils, not to cull them. Unless they are seriously disruptive — but that is not what we are talking about.

Schools should be warned. Apart from a few snobbish fools, we parents are not actually obsessed with league tables. We just want our children to be helped to their personal best, by schools which put effort into finding what that is. Suspiciously, I rang my son's *alma mater*, the Royal Hospital School in Suffolk, which because of its charitable roots has a comprehensive social and intellectual intake and so hovers in mid-table, always hoping to go up. As innocently as I could manage, I asked: "Do you cull your idle first-year sixth? Malvern does, so it's obviously all right now." There was an explosion of shocked wrath. "Certainly not. That would be dreadful. Once we've taken them, we struggle on." Oh good.

Try the same question on yours today. If they sound shifty in their denial, check to see if the numbers fall from the first to the second year sixth. You may think, right now, that your little Johnny is bright and willing; but if he hits a bad patch, do you really want him sacrificed to a pageful of crabbed numbers?

Woodrow Wyatt, as Chairman of the Tote, says crazy regulations are harming racing

Absurd hurdles that ruin the ride

Frankie Dettori's seven winners in a row at Saturday's Ascot Festival meeting was a spectacular which will help racing by attracting larger crowds when he rides. For bookmakers it was an instant calamity. Dettori has become the punters' favourite. The mass of winning bets in singles, doubles, trebles and other combinations lost us in our 204 Tote betting shops and in our credit business £700,000. Extrapolate that to the other 8,500 or so betting shops, and bookmakers' total losses must have been about £30 million on the day.

But they had the solace of betting on winning numbers in the Irish lottery. This would have brought a profit of some half a million on Saturday. Since April, bookmakers have been astonished by the amazing rise in betting on Irish lottery numbers, which now amounts to between 2 and 2½ per cent of turnover. The odds are 5-1 for getting one number right, rising to 44,370-1 for five numbers. Few manage to get even one number right. No levy is paid to the Horserace Betting Levy Board, and the profits are vast.

If the Tote had been allowed these bets, it would have made an extra profit since April of £700,000. Not offering them loses customers in droves to other betting shops, and when there they also make all their usual bets. It will be very hard to win the lost customers back. Our betting-shop turnover has dropped by 9 per cent, whereas generally the fall has been only 3.7 per cent. That reverses the position in the year ending March 31, when our betting-shop turnover fell by only 1.27 per cent and the other bookmakers' fell by 2.21 per cent.

In February, Home Office officials were urgently petitioned to allow us to bet on Irish lottery numbers. A simple order in Parliament is required, taking 30 days to pass. On April 12, I wrote to Michael Howard pressing the point. He didn't reply until July 29, despite my frequent calls to his office. He referred to the possible reaction in the industry (even though all the major bookmakers support the Tote on Irish lottery numbers) and to the need to consult colleagues. "I have now set this in hand," he said. But we have heard nothing since, and it is October. Our irrecoverable loss of profit increases daily. This is laughable from a Government that is supposedly dedicated to deregulation. In reality it is piling it on.

Discourteously and without consultation with us, the Home Office has registered the Tote as a Non-Departmental Public Body. The Tote is unique on the 1,227-strong list of these bodies, in that it has never had a ha'penny from the Government, makes large profits which it gives to racing (which is furious at Mr Howard's indifference, especially with Arab and other foreign owners moving from Britain to places with higher prize money) and pays the Government considerable sums in corporation and betting taxes. I know from the highest source that a *sui generis* body like the Tote was never intended to be on the list of Non-Departmental Public Bodies. It could be removed tomorrow but for official unwillingness to admit a mistake. Consequently a Nolan-style advertisement will appear for applicants to succeed me as Chairman when I retire on April 30 next year.

The same procedure will be used each time one of our five non-executive board members comes to the end of his term of office. The procedure is wearisome and laborious, and it is unlikely that the kind of person who would be a suitable Chairman or board member will be prepared to go through the tedious and degrading business of submitting a CV and then, if shortlisted, being interviewed in a competition arranged by Home Office officials with no knowledge of the commercial business that the Tote operates.

No one disputes that the statute governing the Tote makes it clear that the Home Secretary, though he may make board appointments, has no power to give instructions to the Chairman or the board. If he doesn't like them, his remedy is not to reappoint them.

The statute also lays down that the board members "may regulate their own procedure and make standing orders governing the conduct of their business". Notwithstanding this, the Home Office has sought to impose a model code of conduct, and when we rejected sections of this it was startled to find that it could do nothing about it within the law.

Likewise, the Cabinet Office "Efficiency" Unit sent us 42 closely printed pages of instructions, at a cost to the taxpayer of £22,000. These were mostly gibberish, and included such gems as: "Where a Generic Personal Objective is applied, this should be made '*smart*' by linking to the Specific Work Programme . . ." and "Remember that Personal Objectives are *not* meant to be a detailed 'Stand Alone' description of the individual's work programme . . ." We were told that ministers would be ordered constantly to review and to interfere with the day-to-day running of the Tote.

I wrote to Sir Robin Butler, the Cabinet Secretary, asking him what legal power the Cabinet Office, or any other government body, has to overrule the statute controlling the Tote. As he was obliged to answer that it has none, the Tote will ignore all *ultra vires* orders from any source. But they began pouring out of the Cabinet Office in February, and the trend is clear. Emulating Brussels, Whitehall and its ministers are bent on extending their destructive reach. Power corrupts and bureaucratic power corrupts absolutely, to paraphrase Lord Acton.

The real election is nigh

Peter Stothard joins the Labour Party delegates at Blackpool and tells a tale of two pictures

Some fifty miles separate Tony Blair's party conference at Blackpool from Wordsworth's home village of Grasmere. This year an enthusiastic assortment of "New Labour" supporters, all planning their trips independently as far as I could see, decided that a visit to the seaside politicians merited a detour to the lakeside poets.

Why were they there, sitting against the dry-stone walls with agendas in their waterproof pockets? Seeking fresh air before the days of dust in Blackpool's bars? Maybe. Topping up with romantic sensibility? I think not: pragmatism is their order for the rest of this week. Hoping to meet that devoted backer of the Wordsworth Trust and former Labour conference hero, Michael Foot? No: for any self-respecting, self-promoting Blackpool Blairite, a smile from Mr Foot would be as welcome as a mark of Cain.

Inside Wordsworth's Grasmere home is a rare cloth-capped portrait of the poet's sister, Dorothy, which was until recently owned by the Labour MP Joyce Quinn and her family. There is also a copy of *The Times* from June 1800 showing total public spending as a mere £54,366,306 9/4d: this latter was once favourably remarked upon by John Major and might also appeal to new Labour's would-be "Iron Chancellor", Gordon Brown. But none of these would be reasons to delay reaching the Golden Mile.

One attraction of Grasmere is, however, well worthy of a Labour politician's pit-stop. Readers of *The Times* Saturday Magazine may recall how a few weeks ago our art critic, Richard Cork, hailed a "ground-breaking exhibition" of the prose and paintings of Benjamin Robert Haydon, a friend both of Wordsworth and of Keats. Haydon is best known for his massive scenes from ancient history, but he was also an idealistic political radical, anti-monarchist and campaigner for electoral reform. On the museum walls of Grasmere hang together two political pictures which dramatically grab the visitor's attention. I had been in Blackpool barely a few hours yesterday before their message and subject came flooding back.

The first painting is called *The Mock Election* and it well matches what I remember of Labour's party conference mood last year. The Hogarthian scene shows a London debtors' prison in 1827, where the inmates are participating in a cheerful mimicry of the political process. The chief candidate, sporting a large red rosette on his hat, is confidently canvassing his fellows' support; lobbyists proffer petitions and partygoers quaff wine. Any sense of a real election is far away: so much so that George IV, no instinctive lover of the democratic niceties, added the work to the royal collection for the hefty price of 500 guineas.



Chairing the Member: the candidate held aloft might easily have been a delegate at Blackpool

The second picture is *Chairing the Member*, and it brings us closer to the distinctly different atmosphere of this year's conference. Inside the same debtors' prison, where Haydon himself served two separate sentences, the mock election party is continuing. But the characters are facing a harder reality. The red-rosetted candidate is certain that this time he will gain power. But he is battling against a guard and raising his champagne glass in anger; he could easily have been a delegate in the Imperial bar last night. In this second painting, which did not win the royal favour or money of the first, there is a genuine and disciplined enemy. Royal soldiers are waiting for orders to hit back. The partying politicians are suddenly more fearful, grounded and sullen.

Labour delegates here in Blackpool are strikingly down-to-earth by comparison with last year. The real election is nearer. Tony Blair has huge self-confidence and defends himself vigorously against internal critics at all the various regional party receptions around town. But it is too late to buoy up his forces with new constitutions or philosophies. New Labour's most recent attempts to maintain the momentum of change — on child benefit, trade union links and Scottish devolution — have frightened his supporters more than his opponents.

There is a much greater awareness than before of the Conservatives' capabilities and potential strength. That may seem surprising. The Cabinet has not matched the closeness of the election date with the traditional closing of its party ranks. But Labour is nervous of what would happen if Tory discipline returned. So far this summer, Lord Saatchi's soldiery has made only the merest feints; and yet it has drawn blood.

Labour's confidence comes strongly from outside itself, from its dominance of the public opinion polls and the lionising by lobbyists and influence-seekers that comes from such "mock election" triumph. There are mixed feelings in Blackpool about this. When a Gallup poll yesterday showed a six-point drop in Labour support and deep unease about disunity in the party, Labour's leaders affected quiet satisfaction, saying that it was easier to exert discipline when their poll lead fell nearer to the likely reality.

Indeed, they seemed happy in general with this year's pre-election mood. Behind that confidence, however, lies a worry about where the poll fall will stop. The giant questions are just how much the pollsters have been underestimating Tory support and just how much benefit the economic recovery will bring the Government. In the pretend politics of dinner-party talk and shopping-mall interviews it is not chic to profess support for John Major; in real elections, it does not matter what is chic. In pretend politics, the battle between hope and fear is won by hope; real elections give fear a chance.

Delegates know that behind the jolly smiles of John Prescott, Gordon Brown and Robin Cook lie seething rivalries over influence now and power later. Divisions on sensitive issues this autumn may help Blair if he is elected: the old Left will not be able to claim that it was not warned. But divisions can also cost votes. A prudent Labour Party, knowing that it has not won a real general election for two decades, would keep its arguments somewhat quieter — a point that Tony Blair is likely to reinforce in his speech today.

When Haydon chose a prison setting for his pictures, he was not only making a point about penal policy. He was transfixed by the way men's endless hopes and unbounded imagination are limited by external constraints — "whether it be six thousand feet or six thousand miles". Last year Labour's focus was on its imagination; yesterday it was on its limits.

As for tomorrow, loyal followers of new Labour have been proudly carrying John Rentoul's new paperback biography of Tony Blair. In it they have read how thirty years ago the future Labour leader was preparing for his own mock election, and how while Harold Wilson was facing the nation on behalf of Labour, the young Blair was wooing his Durham Chorister schoolmates as a Conservative. At the last minute, as a contemporary recalled, the fates wanted to say to him, "Conservative so far, but no further". On mock election day, he was ill. In defiance of the national trend another Tory took over — and was elected.

The author is Editor of The Times. *The Haydon exhibition at the Wordsworth Trust, Grasmere, Cumbria, ends on November 3. The catalogue is available by post, priced £15 plus £3 p&p.*

Beaux jest

WHILE the Duchess of York battles to prevent further news of her handsome beaux from hitting the streets, young blades in Australia are fighting for a waltz with Diana, Princess of Wales.

The talk on Sydney's lager'n'lime circuit is of James Packer, eligible batchelor and polo-playing son of the gambling media tycoon Kerry Packer. They say he refuses to pay $1,000 to sup with the Princess later this month at a charity dinner, where she will be guest of honour, unless he can also dance with her.



Picture this, James: dancing with the Princess

A precedent was set the other day in Washington, when the single Princess was seen waltzing giddily with the likes of Calvin Klein and General Colin Powell at a society function. The general was quite overcome and sang quietly into her ear as he held her in his arms on the dance floor: "Heaven," he crooned, "I'm in Heaven."

Diana's new single status has set Antipodean pulses racing, and a round on the dance floor with the Princess is regarded as the ultimate social achievement. This may explain why Clive James, rotund television presenter and paid-up member of Diana's fan club, has taken up tango lessons in London.

Sgt Pepper

THE WALL OF STEEL surrounding Labour's conference in Blackpool was breached yesterday afternoon by an explosion of pepper gas.

At around 4pm, guards stopped a woman and told her to show them a sinister looking canister in her bag. One of the burlies took the canister, clearly marked "self-defence spray", shook it and merrily pressed the button. Within seconds the press gallery nearby and delegates around were coughing and spluttering.

Mo Mowlam, the Shadow Northern Ireland Secretary, was sent into rabid convulsions as she bowled through the exhibition area. Donald Dewar, Labour's chief whip, was doubled up inside the hall. The gas even sneaked its way as far as the podium speaker, who had her big moment ruined by choking.

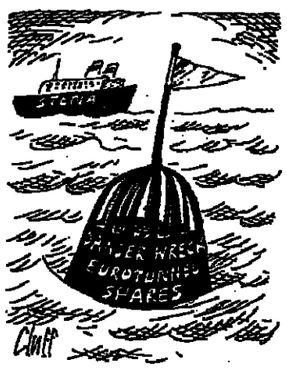
In the best PC Plod tradition, the guard responsible explained: "There was no way I was letting that through, so I tested it. Perhaps I should have taken it outside."

● *Another awkward moment in Blackpool yesterday came when Baroness Castle, 85 and chief basher of Labour's pension plans, was refused entrance to the conference. Nothing to do with Labour's dark forces, it emerged. The Baroness had forgotten her pass.*

Cat naps

LABOUR nearly had the plumpest of all fat cats within their grasp at the party conference. But he escaped unrecognised.

On Sunday evening, Gordon Brown's advisers in his campaign against excessive salaries in the privatised utilities were settling in for a quiet pre-conference dinner. Ed Balls and Charlie Whelan chose the River House restaurant, a favoured haunt for conference-goers.



They were sitting just feet away from Cedric Brown, the former managing director of British Gas, who was dining with his wife. Balls and Whelan failed to spot their quarry, and were disappointed when they discovered that he had eluded them. Cedric Brown explained later that he had popped in, tantalisingly, on his way to a conference in Edinburgh. Perhaps he could have paid their bill?

Drama news

EMMA THOMPSON may be estranged from her husband, Kenneth Branagh, but she can take solace in academia. Her Cambridge college has offered her an honorary fellowship.

Thompson went up in 1978 to read English. She was as well known for her activities with the Footlights as for her discreet *al fresco* encounters with fellow undergraduates. She also sported a shaved head during her student years.

Knee deep

PANDORA CLIFFORD, the ebullient daughter of Timothy "Three Graces" Clifford of the National Gallery in Scotland, has been applying herself with vigour to her acting career. Too much vigour, perhaps.



Pandora: on her knees

She opens tomorrow at the Shaw Theatre in Brixton as the romantic lead in *Ondine*, Giraudoux's tragi-comic fairy tale of a water nymph, the object of a knight errant's passion.

Acting the part of an adolescent girl, she has been hurling herself at the feet of various men so valiantly that she has damaged her knees. "I have to wear knee pads under my costume now," she says.

P·H·S

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BROWN'S WAY

Blackpool grasps the spirit of new Labour

To engage the hearts and heads of Labour conference delegates at the same time has always been a difficult task. Once they used to respond only to appeals to the heart; appeals to the head were received with sullen silence. Yesterday Gordon Brown demonstrated that it was possible to engage delegates' brains too. For the first time as Shadow Chancellor he won himself a standing ovation with a skilful weaving of the impassioned and the impassive.

There are certain buttons a Labour conference speaker can press that will ensure instant applause: defending the poor, attacking the rich, renationalising the railways, keeping the Post Office public. Homage to John Smith is both obligatory and a guarantee of success. But who would have thought that Mr Brown could win applause for promising to bring inflation under control, or for the need for financial discipline and prudence?

His rhetorical trick was to bring together in one sentence the hard-headed and the soft-hearted: thus the spirit of John Smith was summoned to defend the need for modernisation; workers on low incomes and pensioners were invoked in Mr Brown's assault against inflation. But it is still to the conference's credit that delegates applauded his hard-headed defence of Labour's controversial plan to means-test child benefit for 16 to 18-year-olds.

Delegates are at last starting to warm to new Labour's themes. Under Mr Brown's vision of Britain, there will be equality only of opportunity, not of outcome. The "central job of government", he said, was to create a meritocratic society, in which "what each of us can achieve depends less on where we come from, what school we went to and what privileges we inherit, and more on our potential and on the opportunities we have to make the most of our potential". What he wants, in short, is a classless society. Have we not heard that before, from the leader of the Conservatives? For the first time in decades, both parties now share an important goal: the question before the electorate, and a crucial one, is which is most likely to achieve it.

References to "the many" and "the few" peppered Mr Brown's speech, in a deliberate allusion to Labour's new Clause 4: abolishing capital gains tax and inheritance tax would help only the few; using the money to lower the starting rate of tax would benefit the many. Now that punitive taxation is off Labour's agenda, the "few" seem to be defined only as millionaires or utility bosses: but every party has to have its bogeymen, and these are at least smaller in number than the entire middle and upper classes who used to be Labour's natural enemies.

If Tony Blair and Mr Brown have managed to wean their party off the levelling-down form of egalitarianism that used to be its trademark, then that is some achievement. Another sign of this transformation came yesterday with the re-election of Harriet Harman to the National Executive Committee. Ms Harman had committed the cardinal sin, in old Labour eyes, of sending her son to a grammar school. But many new members of the party seemed to have accepted this as the natural maternal instinct at work, wanting her son to have the best chance in life.

This vote was a far better indication of the modernisation of the party than next month's approval of the draft manifesto will be. The latter is a foregone conclusion, since members gain nothing from voting against save bad publicity for the party. But the vote for Ms Harman shows that the unbending attachment to narrow ideology, the bitterness and class hatred, are finally losing their grip on Labour.

AFGHANISTAN'S AGONY

Taleban success trades one horror for another

For the shell-shocked inhabitants of Kabul, bombed and rocketed for the past five years in Afghanistan's bloody civil war, the lightning victory of the Taleban has brought an end to the random horror that has left thousands mutilated and reduced Kabul to rubble. That, at least, is something for which they can only be grateful. Yesterday the student militia further consolidated its hold on the country, sweeping north in relentless pursuit of the former government forces and capturing key towns and a province. Guerrilla leaders who once held divisions of the Soviet Army at bay were fleeing for their lives. The Taleban now control three quarters of the country, and are poised to push through the blood-soaked Salang pass to the gates of central Asia.

The peace they have imposed in their wake is the iron regime of the fanatic. Within hours of arriving in Kabul they issued the decrees that have transformed life in Jalabad, Kandahar and other cities under their puritanical rule. All girls' schools have been shut. Women have been ordered to remain at home, and not step outside unless completely veiled. All men have been ordered to grow flowing beards within six weeks. Television sets have been smashed, music banned. Western influence has been anathematised. Sharia law has been imposed in its most obscurantist interpretation: thieves will have their hands hacked off with a cleaver, women dressed immodestly will be beaten and adulterers stoned to death. Summary punishments have already been meted out as a warning.

Many residents of Kabul are aghast. About 70 per cent of the city's teachers are women: and few will now venture outside. Hospitals, clinics, food distribution will suffer. The United Nations, long a lifeline to the besieged city, is also learning with a jolt of the Taleban determination to impose its will. The bodies of former president Najibullah and his brother, swinging from makeshift gallows for two days, were a reminder to the world, and interceding UN officials, that this militia force, springing from the hardline Afghan religious schools in Pakistan, is more than just another victorious faction. It is the attempt by zealots to reconstruct a society based on an all-consuming ideology — in this case, the reversion to a medieval interpretation of Islam. The last victorious guerrilla army to enforce its beliefs was the Khmer Rouge.

Throughout history, Afghanistan has been the mountainous battleground for clashing warlords and tribes, imperial powers and crusading ideologies. The Taleban victory has elements of all these wider machinations. The Taleban are Pashtuns, the traditional rulers of Kabul, and their hatred of rival factions representing ethnic Uzbeks or Tajiks goes deeper than ideology. Britain long retired from the Great Game, and the Soviet Union was more recently bloodied, but other outside powers still are trying to meddle. The Taleban message to all is the same: keep out. It is a message the world should heed, especially Pakistan. Islamabad may think that its early logistic and political support will open up new routes across the northern frontier, but may find it has created a force it cannot control. Heroin is not the only deadly substance from which the Taleban have thrived. Afghanistan's 20-year agony is not yet over; but its theocracy has no need now of the world's arms, advice or politics. No one who plays the Great Game has ever won.

UNWORLDLY PERFORMING FLEA

Spies should read comic fiction other than official reports

Wodehouse was no traitor. This is official — as if anybody still supposed that he was. The public records released today accuse him of vanity and folly, but acquit him of treason. They show the extraordinary lengths to which the government machine went to prevent his returning to England after the war. And, without their authors' meaning to, they illustrate the miasma of black propaganda as well as the gulf in comprehension between the administrative classes and the apolitical creator of a timeless fairyland.

At a time of national crisis, propaganda and its blind dupe, public opinion, hound those who are perceived to have escaped the danger. Auden, Bejamin Britten and H. W. Austin (who led the revival of English tennis) were pilloried for being in America when war broke out. Though Auden became an American citizen. Britten came home to compose *Peter Grimes* and "Bunny" Austin served in the American forces. The secret war recognised that such celebrities were more attractive symbols than politicians. So Goebbels tried to tempt *The Blue Angel* Marlene Dietrich back to the fatherland, and Thomas Mann's wartime broadcasts to the German people from America were a lifeline to reason for anybody still rational.

When Wodehouse was released in 1941, he foolishly agreed to make humorous broadcasts for an American company about the rigours of internment. Nobody who heard them, or who read Wodehouse on Lord Sidcup's fascist Black Shorts, could have supposed that he was singing for the Nazis. But the British propaganda machine was put to work to present him as a man who had served the enemy. However, even in 1941, Wodehouse was stoutly defended in the correspondence columns of *The Times*.

The contemporary documents show that officials and MI5 did not believe that there was evidence to support charges of treason. Herbert Morrison, the Home Secretary, suggested they would be "too big a hammer for the cracking of his nut". But all wanted to avoid the populist clamour and exposure of their secret war if Wodehouse came home.

They failed to understand Wodehouse as completely as he failed to understand public opinion in Britain under the Blitz. His lack of interest in the ordinary world made him unable to grasp what went on in his first job at a bank. It got him into trouble with the Inland Revenue. And it led to his internment. The papers show that Wodehouse believed that the British Consul would telephone him if the Germans came too near to Le Touquet. Instead, German troops arrested him in his front garden.

That was a scene fit for the Master's pen, except for the bitterness it brought. The Wodehouse records are an argument for spies and politicians reading humorous fiction to balance official reports. But Wodehouse needs no official acquittal. He received that with his knighthood. And he received it unofficially when Jeeves and Bertie Wooster, Lord Emsworth and Psmith, entered that long gallery of living figures who make up the glory of English fiction.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

Tax on waste as challenge to UK

From the Director of the Energy from Waste Association

Sir, Landfill tax — described as the first green tax — takes effect on October 1. From that date £7 per tonne will be charged on household waste sent to landfill sites, reflecting its potentially damaging effects on the environment.

Waste disposal ideas must be translated into realistic strategies which are environmentally friendly and affordable. A recent report from MEL Research ("Assessment of Solid Waste Arisings", no 9506/11) shows a total potential resource of 75 million tonnes a year, offering ample scope for more recycling and energy recovery.

In many areas suitable power stations must be built. They are needed, together with reduced waste and higher recycling rates, to meet EU targets and reduce greenhouse gas emissions. The Europeans have experience in designing waste-fired power stations that are well proven and economic.

If landfill costs do not rise sufficiently, taxation rates must be pushed up until the government target of recovering value from 40 per cent of municipal waste by 2005 (or even a higher target) is in sight.

Yours faithfully,
RAY PALIN, Director,
Energy from Waste Association,
92 Horseferry Road, SW1.
September 27.

Clarke's 'gaffe'

From Mr Gerald Frost

Sir, I am becoming deeply suspicious of a Chancellor of the Exchequer who, on tax and Europe (report, September 30; see also letters, same day), appears to be driven by the unusual ambition of wanting to lose his party the election.

As we have it on the Chancellor's own authority that any enemy of the Prime Minister's is an enemy of his, may we assume that he will shortly retire to a darkened room with a bottle of whisky and a loaded revolver?

Yours faithfully,
GERALD FROST,
Reform Club, Pall Mall, SW1.
September 30.

From Mr Hammond Smith

Sir, So we have now arrived at a situation that when a politician (K. Clarke) actually speaks the truth (about taxes) he is condemned for making a "gaffe". What more do we need to reinforce the general public's cynicism of politics and politicians?

Yours faithfully,
HAMMOND SMITH,
31 Dukes Drive, Leicester.
September 30.

Radon and lung cancer

From Professor S. H. U. Bowie, FRS, FEng

Sir, The juxtaposition of your news reports of September 20 (earlier editions), "Daily dose of radiation 'beneficial' " and "Map shows spread of radon", should do much to dispel speculation about radon in dwelling houses causing lung cancer.

Research on mice and rats in the 1970s and 80s indicated that radiation doses "considerably larger than natural background given at low dose rates" could increase longevity (J. H. Fremlin, 1987). This finding is borne out by the studies in Japan referred to by the Vice-President of British Nuclear Fuel's US subsidiary.

The fact that Devon and Cornwall, known to have the lowest lung-cancer rates in the English counties, have the highest distribution of radon in the home demonstrates more clearly than any previously published evidence that there is no correlation between radon and lung cancer.

Yours faithfully,
S. H. U. BOWIE,
Tanyard Farm,
Clapton, Crewkerne, Somerset.

Rabies and quarantine

From Lady Fretwell

Sir, Mrs Angela Barklam (letter, September 27) asked how many animals have developed rabies whilst in quarantine over the past ten years.

Mrs Angela Browning, Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, in a Commons written reply on July 15 stated: *European bat lyssavirus 2 was isolated on July 6, 1996, from a bat found in Sussex. This is the only occasion in the last 25 years on which rabies has been confirmed by isolation of virus.*

It is little wonder that the Danish diplomat was indignant about the death of his dog. This concern is shared by the 185,000 other pet owners whose dogs and cats have been subjected to six months' quarantine in the last 25 years, to no good purpose. Two thousand five hundred of them died, but not of rabies.

Yours faithfully,
MARY FRETWELL
(Chairman), Passports for Pets,
20 Seymour Road, SW18.
September 27.

Business letters, page 31

Letters should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be faxed to 0171-782-5046.

Proposed change of law on 'stalking'

From Mr Darryl Bickler

Sir, The proposed legislation to facilitate convictions of so-called stalkers (report, September 26) seems to me dangerous for two main reasons: any new law will involve a diminution of our legal rights and will inevitably further the institutionalisation of women in the role of the weaker sex.

There is already considerable existing legislation on physical assault and damage to property. In addition there are laws forbidding the use of threatening or abusive words or behaviour by any means of communication with the intention to cause harassment, alarm or distress. The Home Office's proposed Bill on "stalking" will remove the need to prove that there is any such intention.

Such a widening of the law will be problematic in my view because it will rely on individual susceptibility to the attentions of the accused. When such common standards are lost we all suffer a loss of legal rights because innocence and guilt cannot readily be established objectively.

The proposals will require that the conduct of the accused must be reasonably likely to cause the distress alleged. However in an atmosphere where women are deemed automatically to be vulnerable victims, almost any form of conduct could be interpreted as harassment necessitating the intervention of the courts. Many codes of conduct at work now include unwanted looks and pulling faces as examples of unacceptable harassment. Even the court process is considered by some to be too traumatic to allow the accused to defend themselves.

It is worth remembering that fear of crime is disproportionate to reality. Being "stalker aware" can only exacerbate the debilitating "stranger danger" culture. It is ironic that many women's groups are advocating the theory that women are victims of men and therefore need particular protection from the law. Far from presenting women as equals, this will portray women as helpless in the face of men behaving badly.

Yours etc,
DARRYL BICKLER
(Legal researcher),
Freedom and Law,
c/o PO Box 7,
64 Goodge Street, W1.
September 26.

From Mr T. J. B. Pallister

Sir, Lord Donaldson (letter, September 20) refers to the problem of definition for a specific offence of stalking. The Victorian draftsman of the Conspiracy, and Protection of Property Act (1875) did not provide too bad a starting point. I quote Section 7 in part:

Every person who, with a view to compel any other person to abstain from doing or to do any act which such other person has a legal right to do or abstain from doing, wrongful and without legal authority,

1. Uses violence to or intimidates such other person or his wife or children, or injures his property; or
2. Persistently follows such other person about from place to place; or
...
4. Watches or besets the house or other place where such other person resides, or works, or carries on business or happens to be, or the approach to such house or place

shall be subject to fine or imprisonment on conviction.

Yours faithfully,
T. J. B. PALLISTER,
The Old Vicarage,
Tunstead, Norwich, Norfolk.
September 20.

From Mr Stanley Best

Sir, I suggest that the following form of words could be incorporated in a short Act of Parliament and that they might well serve not only to catch stalkers but others who make a nuisance of themselves, eg by frequent unwanted telephone calls. My suggested wording is:

It shall be an offence for any person persistently to press his or her attentions upon another in circumstances where he/she knows or ought reasonably to anticipate that his/her words and/or conduct are or is unwelcome to that other person or may be so and may cause to that other person vexation, anxiety or distress.

The above form avoids the complexity which an attempt to define stalking more precisely would involve. It is unlikely that the Crown Prosecution Service would take to trial any other than serious cases. I do not think that any judge or jury would have any difficulty in applying the wording.

Yours faithfully,
STANLEY BEST,
Bracton Chambers,
Temple, EC4.
September 26.

Morality and tax

From Mr M. C. Kennedy

Sir, Economists who moralise about the national debt should revise their theory of public finance. When Mr M. C. Fitzpatrick (letter, September 23) points out that net government debt works out at £16,000 per household he neglects to mention that it is owed entirely to ourselves.

Furthermore, it is much more likely to be rolled-over than paid back. The "burden" of the national debt may be equal to the amount spent on the NHS, but it is a transfer, not a loss of resources, the transfer being the interest paid by taxpayers to the owners of gilt-edged securities. The debt has been growing in size for some 300 years without presenting much of a problem so far.

When I am told that we should not "saddle" future generations with our debts I have to ask myself whether I would prefer that my parents' generation had not used debt-finance to pay for two world wars — or whether lower deficits in the last two decades would not have meant even higher unemployment than we actually experienced. The best rule for the public finances is to consider all their consequences and to make a judgment.

Cutting the budget deficit might reduce inflation, but it would also lower national output, reduce profits, increase poverty, add to the crime rate and lengthen the dole queue. A tax cut which raised the deficit would have opposite effects, and might be welcomed by future generations for having put their parents back to work.

There is a lot more to moralise about than the size of the national debt.

Yours etc,
M. C. KENNEDY,
University of Manchester,
School of Economic Studies,
Manchester M13 9PL.
September 23.

Childbirth and the law

From Professor Emeritus Geoffrey Chamberlain

Sir, I was saddened to read Margaret Jowitt's letter (September 25). After 40 years of working alongside midwives, both in the workplace and politically, I find it perplexing to see attitudes expressed which do little to facilitate the combined work of these two groups of professionals.

The Department of Health document *Changing Childbirth*, mentioned in the letter, has mostly been accepted by obstetricians and midwives. The judgments of obstetricians are acceptable to women and Caesarean section is not used indiscriminately.

Many obstetricians do not like the recent High Court ruling on Caesarean sections in principle but the doctors dealing with those individual women were doing their best for them and the babies they were looking after.

Obstetricians and midwives, working with a healthier group of women, have seen the rates of death of mothers and babies greatly reduced. One of the best measures of a contribution by professionals has been the lowering of foetal deaths in labour. This is a time when the professionals' alertness is most acute and actions can be taken to save the lives of babies.

Yours faithfully,
GEOFFREY CHAMBERLAIN,
Singleton Hospital,
Sketty, Swansea SA2 8QA.

Lady Lavery

From Mr Brendan Barrington

Sir, Eoghan Harris's salutary reminder (report, September 23) that Michael Collins became romantically involved with London society hostess, Lady Lavery, while negotiating the Anglo-Irish treaty appears to have created some confusion as to Lady Lavery's nationality.

Hazel Lavery, *née* Martyn, was born in Chicago and lived in the US until her late twenties, when she married the painter, John Lavery, and moved into his London home. Far from becoming an "Englishwoman", as your reporter states, she relished the social freedom then available to Americans in London society and played up her Irishness — she had distant Irish ancestors and her husband was from Belfast.

As Sinéad McCoole shows in her new biography, *Hazel: A Life of Lady Lavery (1880-1935)*, published by The Lilliput Press, Lady Lavery's support for some form of Irish independence did not always endear her to the British political establishment. Nevertheless, her salon became a meeting-place for British and Irish delegates to the 1921 treaty negotiations.

It was there that Lady Lavery met Michael Collins, and — beyond their much-discussed romantic involvement — entertained him at the same table with figures such as Churchill, Londonderry and Birkenhead, helping to create the atmosphere of mutual respect and, indeed, admiration without which Collins might never have shed the "terrorist" tag. McCoole also shows that hours before Collins went to Downing Street to affirm his support for the treaty, he was at the Laverys' being urged by John and Hazel to do just that.

Incidentally, the caption under the painting of Michael Collins that accompanied the article should have credited the portrait to John Lavery. This and numerous other works by John Lavery (as well as a couple by Hazel) are currently on display in an exhibition at the Hugh Lane Municipal Gallery of Modern Art in Dublin, entitled *Hazel, Lady Lavery: Society and Politics*, through November 3.

Yours faithfully,
BRENDAN BARRINGTON
(Assistant Editor),
The Lilliput Press,
4 Rosemount Terrace,
Arbour Hill, Dublin, 7.
September 24.

Time to reunite Turner bequest

From Dr Selby Whittingham

Sir, Might not the rationalisation of the collections of the National Gallery and Tate Gallery (report, September 20) be extended by reuniting the Turner bequest, which continues to be divided between those two galleries?

The shuttling of Turners back and forth between the two galleries has been suggested. That has quite rightly not been carried out, as it would create just the confusion which the Director of the National Gallery wishes to avoid — according to his quoted remark that it is "very important that the collections of this country are where the public expect them to be".

It would also not achieve what was Turner's evident aim, and the aim of anyone organising a retrospective one-man show, whether temporary or permanent, of showing works side by side and not a mile apart.

If works by Monet continue to be divided between the two galleries, that is now on a clear chronological basis, whereas the abstracting of key Turners by the National Gallery from the rest of Turner's bequest is a form of cherry-picking which Ruskin said was just what Turner abhorred. Unlike the Monets, the Turners were bequeathed by the artist to be a "gallery".

According to the recently written opinion by a QC the conditions of Turner's gift have never been fulfilled and the nation is therefore, even now, liable to forfeit it. It would be a pity if that happened as a result of the two galleries and others continuing to turn a blind eye to the facts.

Yours faithfully,
SELBY WHITTINGHAM
(Joint Editor, *J. M. W. Turner, RA*),
Turner House,
153 Cromwell Road, SW5.
September 20.

Ashdown's patriotism

From Earl Russell

Sir, I am sorry to see Sir James Spicer, MP (letter, September 27), casting doubts on Paddy Ashdown's claim to patriotism. Ever since the word patriot came into use in the 17th century, it has tended to be the property of critics of the prevailing government. In the 17th century, the word was normally applied to those who disliked the government because they loved their country.

It is that tradition which Paddy Ashdown is claiming and it is a proud one.

Yours sincerely,
RUSSELL
(Liberal Democrat Social Security Spokesperson),
House of Lords.
September 27.

'Burdened' teenagers

From Mrs Sheila Matthews

Sir, I was angered on reading Dr Stuttaford's Medical Briefing, written alongside your coverage of the errant Roman Catholic bishop, "Burdened teenager may suffer for sins of father" (September 21).

So broadly to imply that children growing up in the absence of fathers may "develop anti-social characteristics", find it hard "to establish good future relationships" and never "mature completely" is condescending and hurtful. And what, I wonder, is "normal development"?

Any youngster reading such a patronising piece would be justified in feeling highly insulted.

Yours faithfully,
SHEILA MATTHEWS,
90 Wood Close, Windsor, Berkshire.
September 23.

From Mr B. A. Watson

Sir, For legal reasons the names of those accused of causing the death of Mr Philip Lawrence cannot be published (reports, September 25, 26). Conversely, the identity of the son of Bishop Roderick Wright has been widely publicised.

I accept that the announcement of the identity of the father of her son was made by the boy's mother and that the disclosure was not the result of a media intrusion.

Were those being tried for Mr Lawrence's killing a few years older their names would be public knowledge — but because of their youth they are "protected". If legal protection is provided in the case of youths accused of a criminal offence, should not the same be provided for young innocents?

Yours faithfully,
B. A. WATSON,
The Homestead, Raskelf Road,
Easingwold, North Yorkshire.
September 27.

Animal insights

From Mrs Dorothy Bailey

Sir, I agree with Mr John Burton's observations that a dog's "psychic" achievements may be the result of picking up clues from its owner (letter, September 24).

When we tidy up the top of our coffee table our dog immediately goes to the window to see who is coming.

Yours sincerely,
DOROTHY BAILEY,
7 Borrowdale,
Wickham, Newcastle upon Tyne.
September 29.

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
September 28: The Princess Royal today attended the Balcas International Three Day Event, Ulster Lakeland Equestrian Park, Necarne Castle, Irvinestown, County Fermanagh, Northern Ireland.
BALMORAL CASTLE
September 30: The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh were represented by the Right Reverend John Taylor (High Almoner) at the Service of Thanksgiving for the Life of the Very Reverend Eric Evans (Dean of St Paul's Cathedral) which was held in St Paul's Cathedral this afternoon.
The Prince of Wales was represented by the Right Reverend Michael Mann.
The Princess Royal was represented by Mrs Andrew Feilden.
The Duke and Duchess of Kent were represented by Mr Andrew Palmer.
Princess Alexandra, the Hon Lady Ogilvy, was represented by Rear-Admiral Sir John Garnier.
BUCKINGHAM PALACE
September 30: The Princess Royal this morning attended a Meeting of Council of National Riding Week at Mosimanns, West Halkin Street, London SW1.
Her Royal Highness, President, Animal Health Trust, this afternoon attended the Annual Equestrian Awards Ceremony at the London Hilton, London SW1.
The Princess Royal, Past President, the Chartered Institute of Transport, this evening attended the André Bénard Lecture and Past Presidents' Dinner at the Royal Society of Arts, 8 John Adam Street, London WC2.
CLARENCE HOUSE
September 30: Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother was represented by Sir Alastair Aird at the Service of Thanksgiving for the Life of the Very Reverend Eric Evans which was held in St Paul's Cathedral this evening.
KENSINGTON PALACE
September 30: Princess Alice, Duchess of Gloucester, Patron, British Limbless ex-Service Men's Association (BLESMA), this afternoon received Major-General Michael Swindells on relinquishing the appointment of Chairman and Colonel Henry Hugh Smith on assuming the Appointment.
The Duchess of Gloucester was present at a Service of Thanksgiving for the life of the Very Reverend Eric Evans which was held in St Paul's Cathedral, this afternoon.
YORK HOUSE
ST JAMES'S PALACE
September 30: The Duke of Kent, Vice-Chairman, the British Overseas Trade Board, this morning left London on an official visit to the Syrian Arab Republic.
Mr Nicolas Adamson was in attendance.
THATCHED HOUSE LODGE
September 30: Princess Alexandra, accompanied by the Hon Sir Angus Ogilvy, this afternoon visited St Clements School, Dingwall, and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of Ross and Cromarty (Captain Roderick Stirling of Fairburn).
Her Royal Highness subsequently opened the Puffin Hydrotherapy Pool in Ferry Road, Dingwall.

The Queen has been graciously pleased to appoint the Reverend Robert Sloan to be a Domestic Chaplain to Her Majesty in succession to the Reverend Keith Angus.

Royal engagements

The Princess Royal, as President, British Knitting and Clothing Export Council, will visit Rima Ariss Designs, South Molton Street, W1, at 10.20; as President, Save the Children Fund, will attend the annual meeting for Volunteers at Westminster Central Hall at 11.00; and will visit Tsaeossian, 266 Fulham Road, SW10, at 3.00. Later, as President, Save the Children Fund, will attend the Energy Industries Council's annual dinner at Grosvenor House at 7.30.
The Duchess of Gloucester will open the New Birmingham Women's Hospital, Metchley Park Road, at 1.40; will open the new extension at Hallfield School, Church Road, Egbaston, at 2.50; and will open the Birmingham Royal Institute for the Blind's Albert Weedall Centre, Gravelly Hill North, Erdington, at 3.50.

Imperial Cancer Research Fund

The Imperial Cancer Research Fund is pleased to announce the appointment of Mr Peter Vicary-Smith, currently Head of Appeals at Oxfam, as Head of Voluntary Income, with effect from October 1, 1996.

University news

St Catharine's College, Cambridge
The following elections have been made from October 1: Professor Cham Tao Soon, Honorary Fellow; Professor John Reed, Professorial Fellow; Dr C. Gonda, The Rev Dr D. Goodhew and Dr V. Vassiliadis, Official Fellows; Dr N. Berend and Miss K. McNay, Research Fellows.

Meeting

Royal Over-Seas League
Mr Michael Bell of the Adam Smith Institute was the guest speaker at a meeting of the Discussion Circle of the Royal Over-Seas League held last night at Over-Seas House, St James's.

St Andrew's Ball

The St Andrew's Ball will be held in London on Friday, November 29. There will be pre-Ball sessions at Wandsworth Town Hall on Thursday, October 10 and November 7, and a teaching evening on October 31. Ball tickets are £35. Dinner tickets £12 extra (concession for parties of 10 or over before October 26) from the Ball Secretary, the Garden House, Cheriton, Alresford, Hampshire SO24 0QQ. Tel 01962 771352, Fax 771667.

Receptions

Mrs John Major
Mrs John Major was the host at a reception held yesterday at 10 Downing Street for Crossroads Caring for Carers.

Society of Chemical Industry
Mr Kenneth Minton, President of the Society of Chemical Industry, was the host at a reception held yesterday at 14/15 Belgrave Square to mark the retirement of Dr John Wren and to welcome his successor as General Secretary, Mr Richard Denyer.

Luncheon

Royal Over-Seas League
The High Commissioner for Brunei was the guest of honour at a luncheon of the Royal Over-Seas League held yesterday at Over-Seas House, St James's. Sir Geoffrey Ellerton, chairman, and members of the central council, were the hosts.

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: King Henry III, reigned 1216-72. Winchester, 1207; Paul Dukas, composer, Paris, 1865; Vladimir Horowitz, pianist, Kieff, Russia, 1904; Duncan Edwards, footballer, Dudley, 1936.
DEATHS: Pierre Corneille, poet and dramatist, Paris, 1684; Sir Edwin Landseer, painter, London, 1873; Louis Leakey, archaeologist and anthropologist, London, 1972; Sir Sacheverell Sitwell, writer, 1988.

Marriages

Mr H.J. Pitman and Miss E.M.A. Noel
The marriage took place on Saturday at the Church of St James the Great, Chipping Campden, of Mr Henry John Pitman, son of Lieutenant-Colonel Hugh Pitman and of Mrs Andrew Parker Bowles, to Miss Elizabeth Mary Alice Noel, daughter of the Hon Gerard and Mrs Noel. The Rev Simon Oberst officiated.
The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, was attended by Catherine Hales, Camilla Brown, Clare Sleeman, Thomas Benyon and Alexander Pitman. Mr William Pitman was best man.
A reception was held at Court Piece and the honeymoon is being spent in Morocco.

Mr A.M.B.P. Boys and Miss R. Zorić
The marriage took place on Saturday, September 21, 1996, at Stari Grad, Belgrade, Yugoslavia, of Mr Adam M.B.P. Boys, elder son of Mr John Boys and of Mrs Bridget Boys, of Garrocharn, Loch Lomond, to Miss Radmila Zorić, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Branko Zorić, of Zenica.
Mr Rory Day, of Ardfern and Moscow, was best man.
The honeymoon will be spent in Indonesia.

Mr A.J. Brown and Miss C.S. Neame
The marriage took place at St Mary's, Bishopsbourne, on Saturday, September 21, of Mr Alisdair James Brown, son of Mr and Mrs James Brown, of Stirling, and Miss Camilla Sophia Neame, daughter of Mr Richard Neame, of Bishopsbourne, Kent, and Mrs Andrea Neame, of Ryme Intrinseca, Dorset.
A reception was held at the home of the bride.

Count C.M.A. Hamilton and Miss S.A. Grant
The marriage took place on Saturday, September 7, 1996, at St Andrews Church of Scotland, Brussels, of Carl Magnus Archibald, son of Count Gilbert Hamilton, of Hallansberg, Sweden, and Countess Lena Hamilton of Gothenburg, Sweden, to Sheona Ann, daughter of Mr Alexander Grant and Mrs Rhoda Grant-McArthur, of La Hulpe, Belgium.
The Rev Gunnar Ståkklint of Stockholm, and the Rev Tom Pitkeathly, of Brussels, officiated.

Mr J.F. Owen and Miss H.M. Pickering
The marriage took place on Saturday, September 21, 1996, at the West Lodge Park, Hertfordshire, of Mr James Owen, son of Mr and Mrs Stephen Owen, of Southport, and Miss Helen Pickering, daughter of Mr and Mrs Peter Pickering, of Finchley.

Sir Kingsley Amis

A memorial service for Sir Kingsley Amis (1922-1995) will be held at 2.30pm on Tuesday, October 22, at St Martin-in-the-Fields, Trafalgar Square.

School news

Framlingham College, Suffolk
Major-General J.B. Dye, president, launched "The Framlingham Campaign", an appeal to raise funds for new school facilities, on Saturday, September 28. Governors, staff, former pupils and parents were represented at a reception in Brandeston Hall, the college's junior school.

Merchant Taylors' School
A service of commemoration and thanksgiving for the Merchant Taylors' School will be held in St Paul's Cathedral on Friday, October 18, at 2.30pm. Tickets for reserved seating can be obtained from the Triennial Secretary, Merchant Taylors' School, Sandy Lodge, Northwood, Middlesex, HA6 2HT, or telephone 01923 820644. Please advise if you are an old boy of the school.

DES JENSON



Ann Sumner, of the Holburne Museum, with Diana and Endymion by Giuseppe Plura

Museum fights for sensuous gem

BY DALYA ALBERGE,
ARTS CORRESPONDENT

A MUSEUM in Bath has launched a major appeal to save for the nation an exquisite marble sculpture which was made there in the 18th century.
The work represents the goddess Diana the Huntress and the youth Endymion and is one of few surviving sculptures of Giuseppe Plura, an Italian master who settled in Bath in 1749.
Nicholas Penny, of the National Gallery, described it as a "masterpiece, with a genuine sentiment, and genial sensuousness", and Alastair Laing, art adviser to the National Trust, called it "exquisite". "The price reflects the quality," said Ann Sumner, keeper of art at the Holburne Museum. "It is a real virtuoso piece."
Plura intended it as a showpiece for his studio in Bath, and there is evidence to show how it impressed his contemporaries. In 1754, one visitor wrote to a friend: "When at Bath fail not to see a piece of sculpture of Endymion on Mount Patmos, the Performance of Mr Plura, a statuary".
Danny Katz, the dealer from whom the museum hopes to make the purchase, has cut his price from £450,000 to £395,000, to help. Dr Sumner said that an overseas collector is ready to pay the original price but Mr Katz has given them three months to raise the money. To start, a private donor has given £50,000 and the Friends of the Holburne Museum £5,000.

Birthdays today

Miss Julie Andrews, actress and singer, 61; Mr Moran Caplat, former general administrator, Glyndebourne Festival Opera, 80; Mr Jimmy Carter, former American President, 72; Mr R. de C. Chapman, Headmaster, Malvern College, 60; Cardinal Cahal Daly, Archbishop of Armagh and Primate of All Ireland, 79; Mr Sandy Gall, broadcaster, 69; Mr John Gunnell, MP, 63; Mr Richard Hambro, chairman, Cancer Relief Macmillan Fund, 50; Professor Sir Stuart Hampshire, former Warden, Wadham College, Oxford, 82; Mr Richard Harris, actor, 63; Major D.A. Jamieson, VC, 76; Mr Walter Matthau, actor, 76; Mr Peter Nobes, former Chief Constable, West Yorkshire, 61; Mr Edward O'Hara, MP, 59; Dame Kathleen Ollerenshaw, educationist, 84; Professor John Reid, clinical pharmacologist, 53; Professor Sir Roland Smith, former chairman, British Aerospace, 68; Professor Sir Colin Stansfield Smith, architect, 64; Sir Robert Telford, life president, The Marconi Company, 81; Professor Jean Thomas, biochemist, 54.

Dinners

Company of Pikemen and Musketeers HAC
The Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress, accompanied by the Sheriffs and their ladies, attended the annual feast of the Company of Pikemen and Musketeers of the Honourable Artillery Company held last night at Armoury House. Captain Michael Holford, Captain of the Company, presided. The Lord Mayor, Pikeman Richard Parsons and Mrs Jane Hill also spoke.

Thorney Island Society
Mr Stephen Crisp, gardener at Winfield House, was the guest speaker at a dinner of the Thorney Island Society held last night at the Basil Street Hotel. Miss June Stubbs, chairman of the society, presided.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr A.D. Hardy and Miss K.E. Anderson
The engagement is announced between Alexander, son of Sir David and Lady Hardy, and Kaarin, younger daughter of Mr James Anderson and of Mrs Joan Anderson, of Chicago, Illinois.

Mr M.F. Harrison and Miss J.C. Hood
The engagement is announced between Michael, younger son of Mr and Mrs Martin Harrison, of Snape, Suffolk, and Johanna, second daughter of Mr and Mrs John Hood, of Brandsby, North Yorkshire.

Mr A.J. Lemonofides and Miss A.F. Hill
The engagement is announced between Andrew, son of Mr and Mrs George Lemonofides, of Cowes, Isle of Wight, and Anne, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Ian Hill, of Bo'ness, West Lothian.

Mr N. Peters and Miss J. Shakespeare
The engagement is announced between Nicholas, elder son of Mr and Mrs James Peters, of Pinner, Middlesex, and Joanne, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Barry Shakespeare, of Little Orton, Warwickshire.

Mr C. Rankin and Miss V.A. Hetherington
The engagement is announced between Ciaran, elder son of Mr and Mrs Brian Rankin, of Newry, County Down, and Victoria, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Alistair Hetherington, of Kensington, London.

Mr N.F. Woodcock and Miss C.I. Fletcher
The engagement is announced between Nat, son of Mr and Mrs Malcolm Woodcock, of Oxford, and Claire, daughter of Mr and Mrs John Fletcher, of Middleton Tyas, North Yorkshire and Ossington Street, London W2.

Memorial services

The Very Rev Eric Evans, KCVO
The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh were represented by the Right Rev John Taylor and Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother by Captain Sir Alastair Aird at a service of thanksgiving for the life and work of the Very Rev Eric Evans, KCVO, Dean of St Paul's, held yesterday in St Paul's Cathedral.
The Prince of Wales was represented by the Right Rev Michael Mann and the Princess Royal by Mrs Andrew Feilden. The Duchess of Gloucester attended.
The Duke and Duchess of Kent were represented by Mr Andrew Palmer and Princess Alexandra by Rear-Admiral Sir John Garnier.
The Bishop of London officiated and gave an address assisted by Canon John Haliburton, Chancellor and Canon in Residence, who led the bidding and the Rev John Paul, Minor Canon, who led the prayers. Canon Michael Saward, Treasurer, and the Archdeacon of London read the lessons. Mr Christopher Morgan read from the works of Dylan Thomas.
The Archbishop of Canterbury was represented by the Bishop at Lambeth.
The Lord Chancellor and Lady Mackay of Clashfern and the Archbishop of York were present. The Lord-Lieutenant of Greater London was represented by Colonel Sir Greville Spratt, accompanied by Lady Spratt. The American Ambassador was represented by Mr L.M. Dent, Minister Councillor for Administrative Affairs, and Mrs Dent.
The Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress, the Sheriffs and their ladies, the City Marshal, the Sword Bearer, the Common Cryer and Serjeant-at-Arms were in procession with members of the Clergy, Aldermen and Officers of the City of London and of Livery Companies.
The Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress of Westminster and the Lord-Lieutenant of Gloucestershire and Mrs Elwes attended.
Among others present were:
Mrs Evans (widow), Miss Georgie Evans and Miss Alex Evans (daughters), Mr N Brooks, Mrs M Budge, Mr R French, Mr and Mrs J French, Miss S French, Mr and Mrs G Morris, Mr and Mrs M Eliff, Dr and Mrs D Rogers, Mr and Mrs E Rogers, Brigadier and Mrs Davey, Mr and Mrs D Budge, Mr H Thomas, Miss M Gibbs, Dr P Lees, Mrs J Kirkwood, Mrs J Riggs, Mr P Mathias, Mrs J Martin, Miss V Martin, Dr and Mrs J Judge, Mr and Mrs M Beale, Dr and Mrs J Sanders, Mr and Mrs Morris and other members of the family.
Viscount Tonypandy, the Bishop of Southwark and Mrs Williamson, Mrs R Chartres, the Bishop of Stafford and Mrs Hill, the Bishop of Kensington, the Bishop of Edmonton, the Bishop of Willesden, the Bishop of Richborough and Mrs Barnes, the Bishop of Tewkesbury and Mrs Walsh, the Right Rev D Arden, the Right Rev and Mrs M Baughen, the Right Rev and Mrs A Rogers, the Bishop Designate of Stepney and Mrs Sentamu, the Bishop Designate of Kensington and Mrs Colclough.
Lord Griffiths of Pforestfach (Goldman Sachs) and Lady Griffiths, Baroness O'Cathain, Lady Howe of Aberavon, Lord Kingsdown, KG, Sir Timothy Hoare (chairman, Diocesan House of Laity) and Lady Hoare, Sir Lawrence Verney (Recorder of London), Admiral Sir Antony Morton and Lieutenant-Colonel Anthony Mather (Order of the British Empire) with Mrs Mather, Sir Philip Dowson (president, Royal Academy of Arts), Sir Richard O'Brien.
Sir David and Lady Floyd Ewin, Sir Roger Gibbs (Wellcome Trust), Sir James and Lady Swaffield, Sir Oliver Wright, Sir John Margetson and Sir Antony Acland (Order of St Michael and St George) with Lady Acland; Field Marshal Sir Peter and Lady Inge, Lady Butler (representing the Cabinet Secretary), Sir John Coles (Permanent Under-Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs and Head of the Diplomatic Service.
The Archdeacon of Hackney, the Archdeacon of Middlesex, the Archdeacon of Hampstead, the Archdeacon of Northolt, the Archdeacon for the Royal Navy and Mrs Bucks, the Archdeacon Designate of Middlesex, the Archdeacon Designate of Charing Cross, the Ven B and Mrs Lucas, the Ven Peter Hayward and the Rev Paul Thomas (St Luke's Hospital for the Clergy), the Ven R Coogan.
The Dean Designate of St Paul's and Mrs Moses, with the Rev John Lees (succentor) and Mrs Lees, Mrs John Halliburton, Mrs Michael Seward, Mr Martin Stancliffe (Surveyor to the Fabric), Brigadier R W Acworth (registrar) and Mrs Acworth, Mr John Scott (director of music) and Mrs Scott, Mr Stephen Sides (Headmaster, St Paul's Cathedral Choir School) and Mrs Sides, Cathedral Prebendaries, Prebendaries Emeriti, Deputy and Honorary Minor Canons, Ms Carol Andrews and other members of the cathedral staff.
The Dean of Windsor and Mrs Mitchell, the Dean of Westminster and Mrs Mayne with Canon Colin Semper (Treasurer), the Rev B Fenton (Precentor), the Rev J Goodall (Chaplain and Sacrist), Canon D Hutt (Steward) and Rear-Admiral K Snow (Deputy Governor) and Mrs Snow; the Dean of Chichester, the Dean of Canterbury, the Dean of Carlisle and Mrs Stephens, the Dean of Wells, the Provost of Southwark, the Provost of Portsmouth and Mrs Yorke, the Provost of Leicester, the Very Rev Alan Webster, the Very Rev Ivan Neill, the Very Rev T Baker, the Rev W Booth (Sub Dean, HM Chapels Royal).
Mr Philip Mawer (secretary-general, General Synod of the Church of England) with Mr Brian Hanson, Mr Colin Mendes (Corporation of Church House), Mr Lee Marshall (Church Commissioners), Mr G Ryan and Miss Sheila Cameron, QC, (Vicar General of the Province of Canterbury) with Mr Frank E Robson (registrar) and Mrs Robson; Mr C Smith (Diocesan General Secretary) and Mrs Smith, Mr David Faull (Diocesan Registrar, London), the Rev Glen Bowie (representing the office of the Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland).
Father D Cronin and Mgr George Stack (Westminster Cathedral), Canon M Heavisides (Gloucester Cathedral), the Chaplain to the Lord Mayor and Mrs Paul, Mr Brian Coombes (Corporation of the Sons of the Clergy) and Mrs Coombes with Mr R C Leach; the Chancellor of Hereford Diocese, Canon Glyn Jones (Missions to Seamen), Lieutenant-Colonel Stephen Pallant (Salvation Army) and Mrs Pallant, the Rev Dr L Griffiths and the Rev Paul Hulme (Wesley's Chapel).
The Rev Tim Thornton (North Thames Ministerial Training Course), the Rev R Owen (assistant chaplain general, Aldershot) the Rev David and the Rev Mia Hilborn (City Temple), Dr Yvonne Burne (Head, City of London School for Girls), the Rev Kathleen Richardson (Moderator, Free Church Federal Council) the Rev James McAllen (general secretary, London City Mission) and Mrs McAllen, Mr Hubert Chesshyre (College of Arms), Miss Celia Mason (Royal College of Nursing).
Members of the Court of Aldermen, the Town Clerk and Chamberlain, the Common Serjeant, the Comptroller and City Solicitor, the Commissioner of the City of London Police, the Remembrancer, the Chief Commoner, members of the Court of Common Council and the Secondary of London and Under Sheriff and Mrs Constable.
The Master and Clerk of the Mercers' Company, the Master of the Grocers' Company, the Master and Clerk of the Drapers' Company, the Prime Warden and Clerk of the Fishmongers' Company, the Prime Warden of the Goldsmiths' Company, the Master of the Company of Merchant Taylors, the Master of the Skinners' Company, the Master of the Haberdashers' Company, the Master of the Salters' Company, the Master of the Ironmongers' Company, the Master of the Vintners' Company, the Master and Clerk of the Clothworkers' Company.
The Master and Upper Warden of the Bakers' Company, the Master of the Tallow Chandlers' Company, the Master of the Girdlers' Company, the Master of the Butchers' Company, the Master of the Saddlers' Company, the Master of the Masons' Company and Mrs Woodman, the Master of the Founders' Company, the Master of the Tylers' and Bricklayers' Company.
The Master and Clerk of the Musicians' Company, the Master, Clerk and Assistant of the Gardeners' Company, the Master of the Wheelwrights' Company, the Master of the Company of Marketors, the Master of the Insurers' Company and Mrs Day, the Master of the Company of Parish Clerks, the Master of the Guild of Freemen of the City of London, representatives of the Cutlers' Company, the Woolmen's Company and the Clockmakers' Company.
Mrs George Cassidy, Canon G Smith, Canon H Levett, Canon and Mrs G Murphy, Canon P Ball, the Rev S and Mrs Riggs, the Rev John Robson, the Rev G and Mrs James, the Rev J Burke, the Rev J Mothersole, the Rev J and Mrs Bryant, Sister Hilary Markey, Mr Peter Bottomley, MP, Mr Roger Evans, MP, Mr and Mrs Brian Swan-Taylor, Judge Marr-Johnson, Judge Neil Denison, QC, Judge Orde, Judge K Machin, QC, Old Bailey Judges, Miss Victoria Legge-Bourke.
Mr M Edwards, Mr W J Briggs, Judge Watling, QC, the Dean of King's College, London, Group Captain and Mrs John Constable, Dr Alan Berg, Mr P R Chapman, Mr R D Galpin, Mr and Mrs J F G Watben, Mr and Mrs C J Jeffries, Brigadier and Mrs B Fullerton, Mr and Mrs P C R Wales, Professor Trevor Dannatt, Dr John Schofield, Mr D Evans, Professor D Bland (Chartered Insurance Institute), Brigadier Anne Field (ATS and WRAC), Mrs Diana Barnato Walker (ATA Association), Mr P Lee (Strutt and Parker) and Mrs Lee.
Representatives of the Chancery of the Order of St John, the Middlesex Regiment, the London Coal Trade, Save Barts Campaign, the Royal Fine Art Commission, English Heritage, Tillingham PCC, the Council for the Care of Churches, National Seafarers Association, the London Business School, Middlesex Yeomanry Association, the Two Cities Dining Club, the Westminster Faculty Office, the Bloomsbury International Society, the Boys Brigade, the Central Board for Finance of the Church of England, the City Livery Club and many friends and members of the clergy and organisations with which Dean Evans was connected.

Memorial Mass

Dr Jerome Sturridge
A memorial Mass for Dr Jerome Sturridge was celebrated by Father Reginald McCurdy and Father Dominic Milroy, OSB, at St James's, Spanish Place, yesterday.
Mrs Juliet Dampier, Miss Marie Louise Sturridge, Mrs Fabia Bromovsky and Mrs Tessa Lawlor, daughters, led the bidding prayers.
Mr Toby Sturridge, son, and Mr Nicholas Sturridge, brother, read the lessons. Caitlin Sturridge and Thomas Sturridge, grandchildren, read from the works of A.C. Swinburne. Mr Marvin Sturridge, brother, and Mr Piers Sturridge and Mr Charles Sturridge, sons, paid tribute.

BMDS: 0171 680 6880
PRIVATE: 0171 481 4000

PERSONAL COLUMN

TRADE: 0171 481 1982
FAX: 0171 481 9313

Ascribe majesty to the Lord's name and give thanks to him with psalms, with harps and the singing of songs, Ecclesiasticus 39 : 15

BIRTHS

ABELL - On September 26th, to Suzanne (née van Oudgaarden) and James, a daughter, Katherine Elizabeth (Katie), a sister for William.
ADAIR - On September 11th, at The Portland Hospital, to Lucy and Robert, a son Fredrik Robin George.
ALSOP - On September 27th, to Hattie (née Eglinston) and Simon, a son, George Richard Percy.
BANNENBERG - On 29th September 1996, to Susan and Benedict, a daughter, Ella Susan, a sister for Jack.
BECKETT - On 17th September at Queen Charlotte's to Virginia (née Osman) and Conrad, our first son Rowan Thomas Jack.
BUOB - At the Portland Hospital London, Laurent, Stephanie and their son Edgar are in wonderland with the birth of Alice on September 24th.
CALVERT - On 4th September at Ballarat, Australia, to Frances (née Byrt) and Edward, a son, Charles Mutzzy.
CARUTH - On September 25th at The Portland Hospital, to Lucy (née Erskine) and Patrick, a daughter, Catherine Alice.
CRAIG - On Tuesday 24th September, to Joanna (née Gardner) and David, a daughter, Katherine Louise Ioan, a sister for Amy.
GEER - On September 25th 1996, at The Portland Hospital, to Sybille (née Loehr) and Markus, a beautiful and healthy son, Phillip - The proud parents.
GROSS - On September 28th, at The Portland Hospital, to Helen and David, their 1st beautiful daughter Yasmine-Vivian.
HORSLEY - On September 20th, to Nicola (née Spence) and Julian, a daughter, Charlotte Elizabeth Ioan, a sister for Tom.
LARSEN - On September 30th 1996, to Karina (née Sean) and David, a beautiful daughter Caroline Beatrice Ann.
MEES - On 25th September 1996, to Sarah (née Jackson), and Paul, a son, Scott William.
MUNDAY - On September 23rd, at The Portland Hospital, to Rachel and Garry, a beautiful baby boy, Alexander Michael.
NORTH LEWIS - On September 29th, to Clare and Selby, a son, Jack Selby.
PAGE - On September 24th, to Amanda, (née Marshall), and Charles, a son, Edward Charles Batterbury.
PICTON-TURBERVILL - On September 27th, to David and Lucy, a son, James, a brother for Edward and Catherine.
PITTS - On 6th August 1996, to Lumina and David, a son, Andrew Jonathan, brother for Matthew, at Scottsdale Hospital, Osborn, Arizona, USA.
REUBIN - To Janette and Richard on 21st September, a son, William George, a brother for Sophie, Isabel and Edward.
REYNOLDS - On 25th September 1996, in Botswana, to Cindy (née Meyer) and Freddie, a daughter, Molly Elizabeth.
ROBERTSON - On 26th September, to Joanna (née Baker), and David (Graff), a daughter, Alexandra. A sister for Jake.

MARRIAGES

SMITH:MATHEW - Philip, second son of Paul and Margaret Smith, of Worthing, to Hazel, only daughter to Faith Mathew and the late John Mathew, of Milton Keynes, on 28th September.

DEATHS

AGGLETON - David Charles of Chipping Campden, Glos. Peacefully at Acland Hospital, Oxford, on September 29th, 1996, aged 72 years. Beloved husband of Winifred. Funeral service at Oakley Wood Crematorium on Tuesday, October 8th at 12 noon. Family flowers only please. Donations, if desired, for Campden Home Nursing Trust to Phillip Tomlins, Funeral Directors, 36, The Leys, Evesham, Worcs. WR11 5AP.
BARCLAY - Anne Millard on September 29th, aged 84, after a long illness. Widow of Theodore and mother of Susanna, David and James. Funeral Service at Higham on October, 17th at 12.00 noon.
BETT - Shelagh Leslie, mother of Simon, Rosellen and grandmother of Arabella, at home on Tuesday 24th September. She was as serene at death as she was in life, having for several years resisted all physical frailty with stoic heroism. Private Cremation followed by Service of Thanksgiving and interment of Ashes at Rogate Parish Church, 3pm, Friday 4th October. No flowers. Donations if desired c/o Petersfield Funeral Services (01730) 262711
BOWEN-JONES - Eileen Anne (née Corbett) aged 87 years. Peacefully in the early hours of Sunday September 29th at the Beverley Nursing Home, Cromer, Norfolk. Beloved wife of the late John Anthony Bowen-Jones, devoted mother of Edward, Elizabeth and David and cherished grandmother of Kate, Gabrielle and Ben and of Rupert and Antonia. Funeral Service at St James Church, Southtoppe at 3 pm on Friday October 4th. Flowers or donations to Cancer Research c/o Cromer & District Funeral Services, 32 West Street, Cromer, Norfolk.
BRETT - James suddenly on September 27th 1996 of Nanaimo, Canada. Beloved and loving husband of Nora dear father of Stephen, Rosamund and the late Liz. A sadly missed father-in-law and grandfather. Funeral service at St. Andrew's Church, Nanaimo, Friday October 4th at 12 noon followed by private cremation. Family flowers only. Donations for the Multiple Sclerosis Society may be left at the Church or sent to W.J. Waight Funeral Director, Well Lane, Stow-on-the-Wold, Cheltenham, Glos.
BUCHANAN - On 27th September, Elizabeth Fownes Buchanan, (née Somerville), wife of the late Col. Colin Buchanan, Royal Scots Fusiliers, peacefully at home in her 89th year. Funeral Service at St. Bartholomew's, Haselmere, at noon, 4th October followed by private cremation. No flowers by request. Memorial Service to be held later. Details from Luff & Partners, (01428) 642 524.
BROWNE - Ursula Isabel, peacefully at home in Jersey, on 27th September 1996, following an illness borne with great courage & dignity. Much loved wife of Anthony, devoted mother of Nicholas & Caroline, fond grandmother of Benedict, Jonny & Henry, step grand-mother of Alexander, Jacques & Tamara. A service of Thanksgiving will be held at Trinity Parish Church at 3.30pm on Friday 4th October, preceded by a private cremation. Family flowers only please, but donations if desired, to The Hon Treasurer Jersey Hospice Care, PO Box 641, St Helier, Jersey. A Memorial Service will be held in Hampshire in November. Pitcher & Le Quesne Ltd Funeral Directors 01534 33330
BURGESS - Colin, Prebendary of St. Paul's Cathedral London, and Chaplin to Her Majesty's Prison Holloway. The Funeral will take place at the Church of St. John the Baptist, Wateringbury, Maidstone, at 3.30pm on Thursday 3rd October. Clergy Cassock Alb. Donations in lieu of flowers to the Missions to Seamen or Medical Foundation for the Care of Victims of Torture or Babies in Prison. C/O Room G12, London Diocesan House, 36 Causton Street, London SW1P 4AU. A service of Thanksgiving will be held at a later date at St. Michael Paternoster, Royal London.
COLLINS - Thomas Patrick, aged 12 years, on Thursday, 26th September tragically as the result of an accident. Wonderful son of Ken and Margaret, and much loved brother of Jenny and Joanna. Private family funeral. Memorial Service on Thursday, 10th October, 2.30pm at St. Jan Baptist, Brink 33, 1251 KT Laren, The Netherlands. Flowers for the Memorial Service care of Mrs Downing, St Janstraat 59, 1251 LC Laren.
CONNAUGHTON - On 9th September, John Francis, aged 67 years. Uncle of Gavin, Ian, Damian, Emer and Geraldine. Funeral Service on Friday 4th October, at 11am, followed by cremation at West London Crematorium at 12.30.
FAIRBAIRNS-SMITH and WALL - On September 24th, Julia and Emma greatly loved daughter and granddaughter of Esmond and Prue, tragically and brutally killed whilst on holiday to enjoy the wild flowers at Nieuwoudtville Namaqualand. A Thanksgiving Service and Committal of their ashes will be held at St Nicolas Church Ickleyfield, on Wednesday October 9th at 12 noon. Family flowers only but donations if desired to help fund the planting of a grove of trees in Sussex in their memory can be sent to C.H.W. Parish Mechanisms, 10 Norwich Street, EC4A 1BD.
FINGERHUT - John F.P.S., passed away peacefully at home aged 85. He will be much missed by all his family and friends.
FORSTER - Kenneth James, peacefully at home on September 28th 1996, much loved husband of Marie, dearest father of Jonathan and Judith, loving grandfather of Jonathan, Christopher, Robert, Philippa, Alexandra and James. Service and interment at Handsworth Cemetery, Birmingham, on Friday October 4th, at 4pm. Flowers, or donations, if wished, to the British Heart Foundation, 16 Ropewalk, Nottingham, NG1 5DT.
FRASER - David Elliot B.A. (Cantab), born Darjeeling, died at Heidelberg Heights, Australia, on 30th September, age 76 years. Beloved husband of Joan and brother of Shirley, Maureen and Darien.
HUMPHREY - Judith (née Webber) on Thursday 26th September 1996 in Cambridge, daughter of Carmel and the late Dr. George Webber. Mother of Anna, sister of Marilyn Lehrer and Jonathan Webber. Funeral at Golders Green Crematorium on Wednesday October 2nd at 3 pm.
KNIPPENBERG - On 28th September 1996 in Libourne France peacefully after a long illness, Susan Mary Campbell (née Wardlaw) MA (Hons) Oxon, beloved wife of Charles and dearly loved mother of Ivor Anthony and Charlotte Hulbert. Service at 10am on Friday 4th October at Perigueux France followed by cremation. No flowers please. Donations to a Cancer Charity. Memorial Service planned.
LAIDLAW - Peacefully at home on 28th September 1996, Dr. Richard B. Laidlaw (Lt. Col. R.A.M.C. Ret'd). Beloved husband of Joyce.
LEES - Peacefully on September 27th, 1996, at Roxburghe House, Aberdeen, William L.B. Lees, M.A.F.R.C.P. F. Inst. pet. Formerly Chief Medical Adviser Mobil Oil Co. Husband of Eileen, father of Alison and Graham. Funeral at Aberdeen Crematorium Hazlehead (Chest Chapel) on Thursday October 3rd at 11.30 am. Family flowers only, donations if desired to Roxburghe House, North Deeside Road, Milltimber.
LLEWELLYN - Graham D, on 28th September, peacefully after a long illness, aged 75. Beloved husband of Dorothy. Much loved father, grandfather, brother and uncle. Private cremation. Donations, if desired, to Copperclift Hospice, 74 Redhill Drive, Brighton BN1 5FL. Memorial Service to London to be announced.
MACLEAN - On September 29th peacefully in London after a cruel illness fought for so long with such great courage and strength, Jenny, only daughter of the late Eardley and Jane Maclean and dear friend to many. Requiem Mass at St. George's Retreat, Ditchling Common, Sussex on Tuesday 8th October at 10 am. Family and close friends only, followed by cremation at Charing Crematorium. Memorial Service to be announced later. Flowers or donations, if desired, to Trinity Hospice, c/o R.A. Brooks and Sons, 35 Wivelsfield Road, Haywards Heath RH15 4EW.
MAYS-SMITH - Very peacefully at Royal Berkshire Hospital on 29th September, aged 88, Ivone Jessie, beloved wife of the late Derek, Masterfamilies to Hugo and Sarah and loving "Grandmother" to Belinda, Arvian, Robert, Tim and Charlie. Cremation private. Thanksgiving Service at St Ethelbert's Church, Hexingswell on Monday 7th October at 2 pm. No flowers but donations for the NSPCC c/o Cyril Lovegrove, 58 Briants Avenue, Caversham, Reading, Berks.
McLELLAN - On 26th September at Eastbourne, Barbara, widow of Dr Menzies McLellan, and mother of David. Cremation private. Family flowers only. No letters please.
MONCRIEFF - Mary Katherine (née Wedmore) much loved widow of Alan Moncrieff, and stepmother of Anthony, Martin and Jean, died peacefully on September 25th aged 88. Funeral on October 4th at 1.30pm in Bampton Parish Church. Family flowers only. Donations if wished to Children's Hospital, Great Ormond Street.
PATERSON - Eileen Mary aged 91. Peacefully at Orford House Surrey. Remembered by generations of Sunningdale School boys (1942-1964). Funeral at Leatherhead Crematorium on Friday 4th October. Family flowers only. Donations if desired to Cancer Research, London NW1 4JL.
PETERS - Janice Llewellyn on 28th September 1996. Much loved wife of the late Squadron Leader Douglas Peters, RAF (rtd), mother of Ian and Nick, sister to Paul and Kit (Christopher), mother-in-law to Jane and Tricia and grandmother to Cesca, Xander, Sophie, Duncan and Felicity. Her funeral will take place at St. Mary's Church, Fairford, Glos, on Friday 4th October at 1 pm. No flowers but donations if desired to CLIC (Cancer & Leukaemia in Childhood), 12/13 King Sq, Bristol, BS2 8JH.
REES - On 27th September 1996, peacefully at Edinburgh Royal

OBITUARIES

SHUSAKO ENDO

Shusako Endo, Japanese novelist, died on September 29 aged 73. He was born on March 27, 1923.

A Japanese who converted to Roman Catholicism, Shusako Endo was a curious hybrid. But the tension between his nationality and his faith informed his work. As one of a tiny minority — there are less than half a million Catholics in Japan — he grew up an outsider in his own nation and this culturally detached stance was to prove one of his greatest strengths as a writer. From a remove he was able more incisively to explore the conflicts between Christian monotheism and Japanese Buddhism, between faith and faithlessness, between the modern materialistic world and traditional beliefs and cultural values.

Though his work is in many ways quintessentially Japanese — spare, elegant and both symbolic and poetically descriptive — in novels such as *Scandal* (1988) or *Deep River* (1995) he took disorientated orientals as his subject. Nor was he unafraid of tackling occidental themes. In *The Sea and the Poison* (1958) — the novel which firmly established his reputation in Japan — he approached the concept of guilt. Much has been made of the fact that the Japanese have a notion of shame, but their language has no single word to denote guilt. In *The Sea and the Poison*, Endo examines the moral atmosphere in which, during the war, Japanese doctors practised vivisection on American airmen, and asks questions about responsibility and guilt.

Predictably, Endo was often compared to Graham Greene — his admirer and correspondent. Like Greene he took a pronounced moral stance and often, too, seemed to share a profound sense of Catholic pessimism in confronting man's bleak search for salvation through God. Endo, again like Greene, occasionally found himself on the wrong side of the Church. His finest novel *Silence* (1966) — often compared with *The Power and the Glory* — is based on the historical figure of the Portuguese Jesuit, Ferreira, who apostasised under torture. It is still banned in some Japanese Catholic schools. But this novel sold more than a million copies in Japan before its translation into English a decade later and did more than anything to establish Endo as one of his country's leading novelists. He went on to confirm his international reputation and his work was translated into more than 25 languages.

Many considered him a contender for the 1994 Nobel Prize. It was, in the end awarded to his compatriot Kenzaburo Oe. But Endo was characteristically modest. There were several Japanese writers greater than he, he said, it was just that there were no translators artful enough to capture the essence of their work.

Typically self-depreciating, Endo saw himself as the common man in Japanese folklore — lazy, curious, loud-mouthed and full of earthy scepticism. "I see no point in being a workaholic," he once said. "Art grows when there is laziness." Nonetheless, despite protracted illness, he continued to write prolifically until the end of his life.

Shusako Paul Endo was born in Tokyo in the middle of the devastating earthquake of 1923, but he was brought up in Dalian, an imperial enclave of Japan on the Manchurian mainland where his father worked in a bank. His parents' marriage, however, was not a harmonious one. Its harrowing disintegration was to affect Endo deeply and memories of it echoed through later short stories. When it ended eventually in divorce, Endo and his mother returned to Japan where they were found lodging with a Roman Catholic aunt.

It was under this aunt's influence that Endo's mother, at a time of hardship, turned to the Roman Catholic faith for solace. Endo too, at the age of 11, was baptised into the same faith, though he did not seriously consider or believe in its precepts, until he was much older.

At first he intended to study medicine and was briefly a student at Waseda University. Medical practices were to become a key metaphor in his work. But he soon abandoned his plans to become a doctor and won a place at Keio University instead to read French literature.

As a believer in a foreign faith, Endo felt ostracised as a student, always suspect and subjected to stringent checks. He also felt a deep loathing for his country's militaristic tendencies — the politics of Japan at that time, he said, made it impossible for him to love his country — and he often agonised over whether he could bring himself to fight for Japan. His military service at the end of the Second World War was, thankfully for him, brief.

In the postwar world he rejoiced for the first time in freedom of speech and conscience, though he believed that his country had lost something vital at the same time — the ancestor-based family system which had underpinned social ethics. In the void, he said, people turned not to spiritual but to material things.

In 1950 Endo became one of the first Japanese students to be awarded a French government scholarship. He travelled to Lyons where he studied the work of the modern French Catholic writers: George Bernanos, Julien Green and François Mauriac. "Optimistically I began to believe I had taken the first steps towards acquiring an understanding of Europe," he wrote in his introduction to *Foreign Studies*. "And yet, in about the middle of my second year I learnt that towering beyond the hill I had scaled lay an enormous mountain." Confronted with the richness of the occidental cultural heritage he sensed, as he put it, "a certain unfathomable distance".

Yet he remained convinced that communication was possible between the two cultures and later he was to take upon himself the duty of trying to make Christianity comprehensible to the Eastern mind. He even wrote *A Life of Jesus* in an attempt to show that the Christian tradition was not quite as alien as the Japanese might have assumed. "Christianity tries to communicate with Buddhism and vice versa and that is why I feel confident that we can reach each other."

After four years in France, Endo returned to Japan and in 1954 won the Akutagawa Prize for his first novel *The White Man*. The controversial *The Sea and the Poison* followed three years later and then *Volcano*, a novel whose protagonist is an unfrocked Catholic priest.

The publication of *When I Whistle* marked a shift in his stance from the solemn almost dark outlook of his earlier novels to a more balanced play of light and shadow. Wryly comic, it is based on the three years which he spent confined to a hospital bed. Endo was beset by ill health throughout his life and underwent a number of operations including the removal of one of his lungs.

His illness however, never prevented him from writing and he published more than 20 works all written — paradoxically for a member of a nation which spawned the electronic age — longhand and in pencil.

He was also well known in his country for his lively newspaper columns and had a popular following as a deflating and self-effacing critic. He was also the host of a television show.

Endo did much for the artistic climate of his Japan. He was president of the Japanese branch of PEN and ran his own amateur theatrical group, Giza. He also devoted much of his time to voluntary work for various hospital charities.

He is survived by his wife Junko and their son.



REAR-ADMIRAL IAN McLAUGHLAN

Rear-Admiral Ian McLaughlan, CB, DSC and Bar, Admiral Commanding Reserves, 1970-72, died on September 18 aged 77. He was born on May 2, 1919.

AWARDED two DSCs and four times mentioned in dispatches in two major wars, Ian McLaughlan had an adventurous career in destroyers. He was sunk twice, first during the disastrous Dieppe raid, and the second time on a Murmansk convoy. He was to go on to fight in the Korean War, during which the Royal Navy was active in bombarding shore installations, and was later in the thick of the naval action at Suez.

Educated at St Paul's School, Ian David McLaughlan joined the Royal Navy in 1937 and after a brief tour in the anti-aircraft cruiser *Cairo* early in the war, he was appointed to the Hunt class destroyer *Berkeley*. She was one of the 39 destroyers that helped to create the "miracle of Dunkirk", from where, during May and early June 1940 under heavy air attacks, 338,226 Allied soldiers were rescued and brought to British ports. Subsequently, the collapse of French resistance required speedy action to be taken to evacuate further personnel (190,000 more British, French, Polish, Czech and Belgian troops were evacuated from Normandy and Bordeaux) and useful shipping from all the ports between the Gironde and Spain. *Berkeley* distributed senior naval officers to these ports and eventually in mid-June found herself up the Gironde at Bordeaux acting as a wireless link to the Admiralty.

Here the First Lord and the First Sea Lord were unsuccessfully trying to persuade Admiral Darlan to move the whole French fleet out of enemy reach. *Berkeley* left Bordeaux as late as June 19 with the British Embassy and consular staffs, as well as Polish and Czech troops, on board. *Berkeley* was subsequently on convoy escort in the Channel and North Sea and McLaughlan was awarded his first DSC.



McLaughlan (with dog) on the bridge of the frigate *Flint Castle*

In August 1942 she formed part of the escort for the ill-fated assault on Dieppe. Escorting destroyers approached as close as possible to the beach in support; several were damaged and *Berkeley* was sunk by aircraft. McLaughlan had a distinct recollection of a shell grazing his cheek.

After a recuperative period on the staff of the training school *King Alfred* at Lancing, McLaughlan was appointed to the destroyer *Hardy* and took part in the notorious Arctic convoys to Murmansk. In January 1944, Convoy JW56 with 20 merchantmen and 11 escorts had to put into Akureyi, Iceland, to avoid a violent storm.

Reported by agents, they then ran into a wolf pack of ten U-boats off Bear Island; in a fierce battle three ships were sunk. Russian destroyers reinforced the escort, but *Hardy* was so badly damaged by an acoustic torpedo from *U278* that she sank and her crew had to be rescued by the *Venus*. The return voyage saw a powerful group of 37 merchantmen and 23 escorts evading nine U-boats and getting home safely.

Transferred as second-in-command to the fast minelayer *Apollo*, McLaughlan took part in minelaying operations designed to protect the Normandy landings. On D-Day plus one, his ship transported General Eisenhower and Admiral Ramsay to inspect the beaches. On May 13, 1945, *Apollo* escorted the cruiser *Devonshire* which carried Crown Prince Olav of Norway back to Oslo. Hodgkinson's war ended with him as second-in-command of the destroyer *Chevron*.

The frigate *Flint Castle* in home waters was the first of his numerous commands. In 1950 he was in the Far East in command of the destroyer *Concord* at the start of what is too often forgotten as a major British naval war — the Korean War. The British were responsible for all naval operations on the west side of the peninsula. *Concord* executed many shore bombardments and, in November 1950, assisted the evacuation of the American 8th Army from Chinnampo in the face of the massive Chinese counterattack over the 38th parallel which nearly pushed UN forces into the sea. McLaughlan was awarded his second DSC for these operations.

Promoted commander in 1951, he attended the US Armed Forces Staff College before being given two further happy and successful destroyer commands — *Chieftain* and *Chevron*. These were mostly in the Mediterranean. A contemporary remarked that McLaughlan was one of the best ship-handlers he had ever seen; Malta was always the Mediterranean Fleet showcase and McLaughlan's stylish charge backwards up Sliema Creek to a berth between head-and-stern buoys was always worth watching.

In *Chevron* he was awarded his fourth mention in dispatches for his actions in November 1956 in support of the British and French attempt to re-establish control over the Suez Canal after President Nasser's unilateral takeover. At Port Said some blockships prevented access to the chosen landing points for tanks and commandos; it was *Chevron* which organised minesweepers and a safe passage to the nearest alternative fishing port.

After promotion to captain, his subsequent appointments included a job in the Plans Division of the Admiralty and two further sea commands, the Second Frigate Squadron and the guided missile destroyer *Hampshire*. In 1967 he was again in the Far East as the Chief of Staff to the Commander Far East Fleet where, amid the other operational matters, he organised the run-down and handover of the Singapore dockyard to their Government.

Widely noted for his equable and unflappable temperament, particularly when under stress at sea, McLaughlan was also seen by some as "quite a hard man, critical, a man who understood clearly what he wanted from others, a most able Chief of Staff".

He was appointed CB in 1970 and his final tour was as Admiral Commanding Reserves and Director of Naval Recruiting. Retiring with a war disability pension, he interested himself in local affairs in East Sussex. He leaves his widow Charity, and two daughters.

WILLIAM CLIFFORD

William Clifford, CB, CBE, former solicitor to the Department of Health and Social Security, died on September 3 aged 87. He was born on July 30, 1909.

WILL CLIFFORD was one of those civil servants brought into the new Ministry of National Insurance after the Second World War to lay the foundations of the welfare state.

As a young senior legal assistant he became deeply involved in preparing for what became known in Whitehall as the "Appointed Day" — July 5, 1948. This saw the introduction of not only the National Health Service (NHS) but a network of universal benefits.

Clifford cut his teeth as a Whitehall lawyer on some of the complicated legislation then required to transfer to the new system those already receiving benefits under the old Workmen's Compensation Act. Endowed with a good legal brain, Clifford was to become a leading draftsman in social security as successive governments introduced subordinate legislation, almost annually, during the next quarter of a century.

His reward came in 1968 when he won the job of solicitor to the newly enlarged DHSS, in charge of up to 80 Civil Service lawyers, until his retirement in 1974 aged 65.

Yet for all his expertise as a drafting lawyer, Will Clifford had first aspired to become a diplomat.

William Henry Morton Clifford was born at Campbeltown, Argyllshire, the son of a successful Glasgow architect, and retained a lifelong pride in his Scots background. He later discovered while researching his family, however, that his forebears had originated in Co Wexford — while Will Clifford himself was to spend most of his life in England.

From prep school in Littlehampton, he won a scholarship to Tonbridge School, then a bursary to Corpus Christi, Cambridge. He read classics for the first two years, switched to modern languages for a further two, and rowed for his college.

Clifford abandoned his plans to enter the Foreign Office when his mother, his last close relative at that time, fell fatally ill. Reluctant to risk being sent abroad while she was dying, he turned to the law and was admitted as a solicitor in 1936.

Political insecurity at home and abroad in the 1930s persuaded him to join the Civil Service rather than enter private practice and he worked in the legal department of the General Post Office (GPO) until the war.

Joining the Army in the ranks, Clifford then served in a searchlight battery before being commissioned and transferred to military intelligence. In 1944 he was moved to a staff job on the Army Council secretariat in the War Office and had reached the rank of major before being demobilised.

Clifford returned only briefly to the GPO. The head of its legal department pointed out to him that because of his comparatively late start and wartime service, there was a queue of younger men who were now senior to him. That was in the days when they waited their turn for promotion.

Recognising Clifford's ability, his departmental head recommended him for the Ministry of National Insurance in the hope that he would have a chance to shine in a new department.

On retiring from Whitehall, Clifford became legal consultant at the Civil Service College and lectured there on a part-time basis for the next five years.

He was not only well-respected but well-liked. Despite his size (he was over six foot four), he was by nature a shy, private man who enjoyed company but was happy to let others do the talking. His outside interests included sailing, genealogy and music — especially opera. He frequently attended Glyndebourne during the season and made regular pilgrimages to the Wexford festival.

He met his wife Katharine through her brother, a friend at Cambridge. She died last year, however, a year before what would have been their diamond wedding, and Will Clifford is survived by their two daughters and a son.

MARGATE

The following Letter, written by a Gentleman at Margate to his friend in London, may be agreeable to the public:

MY DEAR FRIEND,

Margate, September 17, 1788

The town is crowded, not so much however by valetudinarians as by many who don't know what to do with their time. The rooms are spacious and elegant, where there are balls three times a week, the amusement is undeniably innocent, as there are generally some reverend divines who dance to shew they are neither dissenters nor methodists. Here are abundance of Misses, who complain of want of partners, which they charge to the impropriety of many, who, wishing to hold the tenure of youth as long they can, continue to dance, while the young Misses insist they have mistaken the matter, and should have given it up long since.

The card rooms are generally filled, but whether there be any black legs I cannot say: A great trade is carried on here at the public libraries, not indeed in the sale of books, but in toys, for each library is a toyshop, where all their wares are disposed of by the dice, a science in which the Young Misses are happily initiated [sic], much to the improvement of their minds, being enabled by practice and observation to make just calculations, and added to this, their seeing so frequently the uncertainty of placing their hopes and expectations on the casual things of the world, they hereby require the great virtues of patience and resignation. This mode of education should be adopted by every careful parent for their children, as it fills up their time, and averts the pernicious consequences of idleness.

There are but two hotels here of any consequence, *Benson* and *Micheners*, which are calculated for what the French call *Les Gens comme il faut*; but there are public houses of a gradually inferior rank, for those who come here in *Dillys*, and those who come in the *Hoys*, the influx by the latter is surprizing, often an hundred at a time, who come with five or ten guineas each, and return so soon as it is spent, and give way to a new set. This is a great relief to a class of people who want a little relaxation, and I think it must be pleasing to humanity to see so many enjoying it—These hoys are likewise a great convenience for the conveyance of Gentlemen's baggage.

Here are three or four boarding houses, with convenient lodgings, where I understand excellent tables are kept on very reasonable terms and frequented by genteel company.

The markets are abundantly supplied, and every thing so good as would keep an epicure in good humour, or decorate the table of a Lord-Mayor, and added to this, Benson gives notice now and then that he has purchased a turtle, merely to oblige the company, which for the benefit of the public he disposes of at eight shillings a quart . . .

There is natural civility in the inhabitants of Margate, improved by their intercourse with the great variety of visitors here, and I am willing to pay them the tribute due to their honesty, which I think appears in that intercourse . . .

Yours, &c.

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October 1, 1788

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LEGAL NOTICES

DALE STUDIO LIMITED (IN MEMBERS VOLUNTARY LIQUIDATION) COMPANY NUMBER 1520334 NOTICE TO CREDITORS On 11 September 1996 the above company was placed into Members' Voluntary Liquidation and J R Hill and M Pinkness of Abbots House, Abbey Street, Reading RG1 3BD were appointed Liquidators by the Members. The Joint Liquidators give notice pursuant to Rule 4.182A of the Insolvency Rules 1986 that the creditors of the company must send details, in writing, of any claim against the company to J R Hill, Abbots House, Abbey Street, Reading RG1 3BD, by 23 November 1996. The Joint Liquidators also give notice that the provisions of Rule 4.182A(3) that on 23 December 1996 they intend to make a final return to creditors who have submitted claims by 23 November 1996 and that there will be no further distributions to creditors. The final return to creditors will be made without regard to the claim of any person in respect of a debt not already proved. The company is able to pay all of its known creditors in full. Dated 26.9.96 J.R. HILL Joint Liquidator

DOUGLAS JAMES TAYLOR, son of the late JAMES THOMAS KENOUF, is asked to immediately contact the law office of SELINGER & COMPANY by telephone (604) 533-2300, or by facsimile (604) 533-2387.

THE INSOLVENCY RULES 1986 RULE 4.106(1) City Office International Limited -in Creditors' Voluntary Liquidation-

I HEREBY GIVE NOTICE that I, Raymond Hocking (Licensed Insolvency Practitioner), of 8D0 Bury Hayward, 8 Baker Street, London W1M 1DA, was appointed Liquidator of the above named company on 19 September 1996. All debts and claims should be sent to me at the above address.

All creditors who have already done so are invited to prove their debts in writing to me. No further public advertisement of invitation to prove debts will be given. Dated: 24 September 1996 R. Hocking Liquidator

WESTON INTERIORS LIMITED The Insolvency Act 1986 NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986 that a Meeting of the Creditors of the above named company will be held at the offices of Chantrey Vellacott, 10-12 Russell Square, London, WC1B 5LF on 9th October 1996 at 11.00 am for the purposes mentioned in Section 99 to 101 of the said Act. A list of the names and addresses of the Company's creditors may be inspected, free of charge, at Russell Square House, 10-12 Russell Square, London, WC1B 5LF between 10.00 am and 4.00 pm on the two business days preceding the date of the meeting stated above. Dated 25th September 1996 By Order of the Board RON BROADLEY, Director

PUBLIC NOTICES

CLOSURE OF FRENCH OF WALES BAZAARS (FORMERLY KIMS TAMARA) OFFICERS MESS HONG KONG. Bids are invited for the return of all presentation gifts. Persons wishing to make bids for gifts should write, with details, to The Officers Mess Manager, Prince of Wales Barracks, BFPO 1, by 1st November 1996.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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Advertisements for the Court Page must be received two working days prior to publication and are accepted subject to confirmation.

Advertising Rate is £13.52 per line inc VAT.

US buyers to visit Wales Fair

American and Canadian buyers will attend this month's Wales Fair, the principality's premier showcase for small craft, gift and textile producers.

The event, on October 6 to 8 at the Royal Welsh Showground, Builth Wells, is backed by Wales Craft Council and the Welsh Office.

One hundred and forty small businesses are expected to show their products. The craft council hopes that orders placed will exceed last year's total of £408,000. Exhibitors are invited to a briefing by the Welsh Office on overseas buyers' needs.

Training loan

Barclays Bank offers refunds of £150 to £750 to businesses taking out a Department for Education and Employment small-firms training loan through the bank — part of Barclays' nationwide Training to Succeed scheme.

Car purchase

Members of the Home Business Alliance, for people running businesses from home, can buy single cars and vans at a fleet discount. The deal, through Tate Bros, of Brighton, gives about 10 per cent off Renault, Citroën, Fiat and Alfa Romeo vehicles, and up to 24 per cent off Fiat's Fiorino.

Women's show

International Women's Day will be marked by a Women Mean Business seminar and exhibition at Olympia, London, on March 7 and 8. The event is organised with support from the Direct Selling Association and Institute of Management. Details from Martin Ashenden, on 0171-262 3382, or Rowena Young, on 0171-583 1441.

Coal and steel aid

Cash will continue to be granted by the European Commission to help workers made redundant in coal and steel industry closures to start businesses, retrain and find jobs until expiry of the European Coal and Steel Community Treaty in 2002. The programme helped 120,000 in 1994 and 1995.

Design date

The Design Council is holding a Design in Business Week starting on October 28 with events around the UK. Contact 0171-839 6288.

Potter's motto is a modern twist to Roman designs

By Barbara Trigg

JOHN ROAN



Woman of letters: Deborah Hopson-Wolpe, a potter personalising her products with clients' mottoes

LIVE IN HAPPINESS, says the wording around an elegant, blue and fawn stoneware dish designed as a wedding present by Deborah Hopson-Wolpe, a potter. Her customers may choose their own wording, such as a riddle, a motto, or a personal message, making the dishes suitable for any occasion, including company presentations.

Ms Hopson-Wolpe specialises in fine stoneware and porcelain bowls and jugs decorated with either carved, stamped, or coloured slip inscriptions and patterns. She aims for lightness, strength, strong colours and smooth, lustrous surfaces.

Although much of her work is evocative of pottery seen in museums, because she is influenced by Roman and medieval objects, her designs have a modern, sophisticated appearance.

Another influence is Japanese economy of line and form. Her interest in Japan dates back to a childhood liking of Japanese illustrations and dolls. This eventually led to her going to work and study art in Tokyo for five years in the 1970s, after she had worked at a pottery and studied ceramics at Camberwell School of Art.

On returning from Japan, she set up a studio at Olney, Buckinghamshire, with the help of a Crafts Council New Craftsman Award. She has since exhibited work in Japan, Germany and France, as well as at many events in Britain.

In 1985, Ms Hopson-Wolpe received a research grant for work on modern forms based on Roman finds, resulting in the first displays of her beakers, plates and bowls in museums at a time when museum shops sold little more than postcards. After that, her work also went on sale at the Museum of London.

Now, she supplies shops and galleries all over Britain. One private commission consisted of shallow dishes with curved rims, in the form of Samian ware, for an archaeologist, who also ordered little pots reminiscent of Belgic cinerary urns to use as serving dishes or soup bowls. Some of these pieces were decorated with snippets from an ancient Roman cookery book in Latin, with English translations.

In working with lettering, Ms Hopson-Wolpe follows a family tradition. Her father was Berthold Wolpe, the celebrated typographer. As well as working in ceramics, she has designed logos, leaflets and posters.

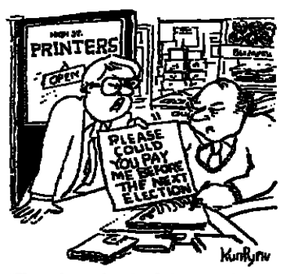
Among other activities, she has lectured and demonstrated, held a short-term consultancy at the Open University, and been chairman of Milton Keynes Craft Guild and artist-in-residence at a hospital.

Currently, she is working on ceramic mural of a plesiosaur beside a staircase at Beauchamp School, Bedford.

Of her plans, Ms Hopson-Wolpe says: "I want to replace the kiln, and then build a salt glaze kiln. I would like to make some large porcelain pieces and small musical instruments in red stoneware. One idea sparks another — I would like to do vases or bowls inspired by fossils."

Meanwhile, is expanding buildings that form her home, studio and workshop — and playing trombone in a local band.

Deborah Hopson-Wolpe is on 01234 712306



"Two hundred of these, please — I'm sending a round robin to all my late payers"

Firms urged to clean up on water

By Our Business Staff

A CAMPAIGN encouraging more economical and environmentally desirable water use among small companies has been launched by the Co-operative Bank. The effort is part of the bank's policy to help businesses to observe environmental principles.

The pilot campaign will be run by the Business and Ecology Centre that the bank set up last year with Manchester's four universities. The centre is sending leaflets to businesses in northern England, whether they are the bank's customers or not, asking them to look at how they use water. It will follow this up with telephone calls. Businesses that think they may benefit are offered advice from the centre's experts.

Phil Barton, the centre director, thinks that many companies could save money because they pay for water they use and discharge.

He said: "The costs of purchasing and disposing of water have been going up in recent years, particularly in areas where there have been drought conditions. What companies have previously seen as a fixed charge has become a variable cost.

"Economies may be just good housekeeping, such as turning off taps and mending leaks. Another economy is making water do more than one job. It is possible to re-use cooling water in another process down the line. Cooling water is not generally dirty water. We shall also be reminding companies of their obligations on discharge."

Mr Barton said that a £10,000 saving was equivalent to the return on sales of about £70,000.

Telecottages on way for West Country

By Brian Collett

CASH from Brussels is to be used to establish 40 telecottages — technology-equipped centres normally used as bases for business training and small enterprises — in the West Country. They will provide activities specific to West Country communities.

Parts of Somerset, Devon and Cornwall are regarded by the European Commission as rural areas deserving development finance. The Commission has contributed £2.279 million to the project from the European Social Fund and the European Regional Development Fund.

Another £2.8 million comes from the project partners, including Exeter University, the West Country Development Corporation and other agencies, councils and private-sector companies.

The project is being run by Rural Area Training and Information Opportunities (Ratio), based at Plymouth University. Individuals or groups aiming to start telecottages are putting their bids to Ratio and must add some funding of their own.

Matt Barrow, Ratio's manager, said the widest range of activities was being encouraged, including businesses not normally associated with information technology.

Ratio is deciding which businesses will benefit most, drawing on research by the Devon and Cornwall training and enterprise council, the development corporation, the area's Business Link and the county councils. Mr Barrow expects many will be from tourism, agriculture and fishing, the staple West Country activities.

A farmer may use the technology for doing his administration work. Mr Barrow said: "Fewer than 5 per cent of West Country farmers have a personal computer. A farmer could also get his tailor-made training at a telecottage, where the hours are more flexible than at a local college."

Mr Barrow said other European Union countries had shown interest in the experimental uses to which telecottages are being put.

Bids for about half the telecottages have been approved and applications are continuing.

Details: 01752 232390.

Links agency ignored

By Rodney Hobson

BUSINESSMEN and women are not using the Government-backed Business Links support network, often because they are not aware that it exists, according to a report by National Westminster Bank.

Small business owners and managers have yet to be persuaded of the value of the support on offer, the bank says. Half the people to whom the bank spoke did not know where to find their local Business Links office, and two-thirds did not know where the local enterprise agency was.

Fewer than one in ten start-ups or established businesses went to Business Links for advice. Enterprise agencies, which are particularly intended to help start-ups, found only 3 per cent of businesses consulting them.

Businesses in the West Midlands were most likely to know where local Business Links were; those in the South East were least likely.

However, small businesses seemed well aware of their trade associations and were likely to turn to them for help and advice. Chambers of Trade were deemed helpful with matters such as export certificates, and valued for networking. Banks, solicitors and accountants were also often approached.

Ian Peters, NatWest's head of small business services, said: "The onus is on the agencies themselves to prove their worth."

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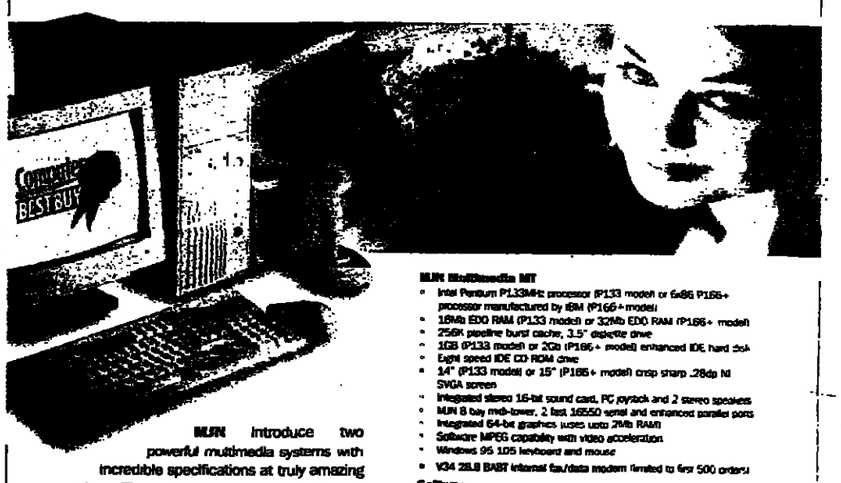
Persons interested are also informed that the European Parliament intends to arrange a competition for interior decorators or architects for the fitting-out of a formal entrance hall for building D1 and the refurbishment of an entrance from building D3 to building D1-

The notices for the above invitations to tender were sent for publication in the Official Journal of the European Communities (Supplement S) to the Office of Official Publications of the European Communities on 11-09-1996.

Further information may be requested by fax from Mr Roger GLASS on (+352) 435814.

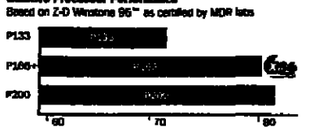
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Franchising can provide you with a safe business — if you're careful. **David Churchill** introduces a three-page report

Business boom in franchise sector



Franchisors showing their wares to franchisees at the annual National Franchise Exhibition at the National Exhibition Centre in Birmingham

Britain's franchising business appears to be one of the most buoyant small business sectors of the mid-1990s, with the latest figures from the British Franchise Association (BFA) showing sales through recognised franchise operations at £5.9 billion last year, an increase of just more than 7 per cent on 1994.

Nine out of ten franchises covered by the survey report that they were trading profitably last year, compared to 70 per cent in 1991 at the onset of recession. The proportion reporting losses has fallen from 14 per cent to 4 per cent over the same period.

With a franchise failure rate estimated at one in every 20, the franchising route offers greater security for those willing to invest their redundancy cheques, life savings or inheritances. This is in contrast to figures suggesting that at least one in every four new business start-ups in general fails in its first year, with up to 70 per cent going bust within their first five years.

Enthusiasm for franchising is expected to be shown at this week's annual National Franchise Exhibition at the National Exhibition Centre in Birmingham (from Friday, October 4 to Sunday, October 6), which is likely to attract a record numbers of visitors, with 30 per cent more exhibitors attending than last year.

"Anyone who is thinking about becoming a franchisee — or business people researching franchising as a way of expanding their own companies — can find out everything they need to know, taking advantage of all the free advice that is available during the show from bankers, lawyers, consultants and accountants," says Steve Thomas, the exhibition's event director.

But would-be franchisees (the people who buy and operate the franchise) and franchisors (the companies who develop and own the system) should beware some of the hype. While the franchise sector has a number of substantial and well-run franchise operations, such as McDonald's, Dyno-Rod and Prontaprint among many others, there is another more worrying side to the business.

According to CAMC, the Oxford-based consultants, this consists of an "unwholesome concoction of cowboy outfits, lookalike versions of better-known and run enterprises, weak conceptions bolstered by over-optimism and grand claims, together with born-again failures rising from the ashes of previous failures."

Becoming a franchisee, therefore, is not a guaranteed route to financial security and individual success. Taking on a franchise with one of the more reputable and well-established franchise operations, and raising finance through a bank or other institution, reduces the potential risk. But it is by no means a guarantee of success.

A new report into franchising, published last week by the City University's Business School, also highlights some of the problems facing the sector. Professor Christina Fulop, the report's author, says there are concerns about the quality of people recruited by companies to operate as franchisees.

"More stringent initial recruitment by franchisors is essential to minimise turnover of franchisees and to reduce legal disputes and the many other sources of friction," she says. While some measures have already been taken, she says, "such rigour needs to be maintained, even if the marketplace appears more buoyant."

Professor Fulop has also identified a new problem among well-established and successful franchisees. "Those franchisees whose lifestyle expectations have been fulfilled suffer from diminished drive, ambition and entrepreneurship and can be a drain on all the franchisees in the network," she says. "Since this group is likely to become more widespread as the franchise network matures, maintaining the enthusiasm of franchisees may soon become the most difficult part of the operation."

Yet franchising remains an important part of the economy. Mr Thomas says that franchising is now bigger than the whole of the energy sector, including water, gas and utilities, and is almost as big as the Armed Forces.

The BFA figures, produced jointly with NatWest Bank, show that more than 222,000 people are directly employed in franchising and another 25,000 estimated as having indirect employment as a result.

London and the South East continue to be the main focus of franchise activity, followed by the West Midlands, South West and North West. Just over a fifth of franchisors operate in other parts of Europe.

There seems little doubt that the franchise format is here to stay, indicated by the same proportion of franchisee renewal contracts — two thirds — in 1995 as in 1991, in spite of the unfavourable economic climate in between.

- *The National Franchise Exhibition information line: 01203 426461.*
- Overview of the Franchise Marketplace 1990-1995 *by Professor Christina Fulop, price £25, is available from Sarah Finch, City University Business School, Frobisher Crescent, Barbican Centre, London EC2Y 8HB (0171-477 8604).*

Molly Maid cleans up

Sales are high for a franchise with a fresh approach to housework

ADRIAN SHERRATT



Pam Bader, chief of Molly Maid and of the BFA

The Molly Maid domestic cleaning company began operating in the UK in 1985 and now has franchises covering 40 areas, with total sales approaching £3 million a year.

The company started in Canada in 1979 and it introduced a new concept in home cleaning to Britain, where many householders relied on the services of a traditional, British "charlady" who popped in for a couple of hours to vacuum, dust the shelves, clean up the kitchen and charged at an hourly rate.

Homeowners were not used to Molly Maid's professional service, which is provided by a team of two uniformed staff, turning up in a liveried car, having given a written estimate of the cost of a house clean.

Pam Bader, Molly Maid's chief executive, concedes that the company had to overcome the charlady image to succeed. "It was difficult for our first franchisees because they were charging for the job per house and not on an hourly rate. The public has taken a while to get used to the idea of professionalism in a domestic cleaning service."

Ms Bader, who is also chairwoman of the British Franchise Association, adds that demand has increased rapidly, largely because more British women are working and have less time for housework, and because the disposable income of many families is rising. The domestic cleaning market in the UK is now estimated to be worth about £1.9 billion a year.

Molly Maid, which also operates in America and Japan, has 32 franchises covering 40 areas in England and Scotland, with six more being launched this year. The firm, based in Windsor, Berkshire, has a business agreement with Ford for the supply of vehicles.

It costs £7,800 to set up a franchise lasting ten years — about half is the franchise fee and the remainder is used to start up and buy equipment and materials. Franchisees pay an annual royalty of 8 per cent of their turnover, plus 2 per cent towards the cost of advertising.

They use the firm's business systems, which are accredited to the quality standard ISO9002, and receive on-going training in accounts, VAT registration, site and area selection, employment law, marketing and sales. They also get help and advice from field support staff.

Ms Bader has been with Molly Maid for ten years. She is reluctant to estimate the average charge for cleaning a house, saying each job and each home is different and the cost varies accordingly. But each team of two cleaning staff is capable of cleaning five or six homes a day.

She says the people recruited to run the franchises have business acumen and want to succeed. "They are high achievers." Molly Maid's sales are up 23 per cent over the past year and Ms Bader says that the firm wants to expand its number of franchises in order to maintain its market dominance in the UK domestic cleaning industry.

CRAIG SETON

Phone lines are open 8am-8pm Monday-Friday and 10am-2pm Saturday, excluding Bank Holidays. Midland Bank plc is an affiliate member of the British Franchise Association.
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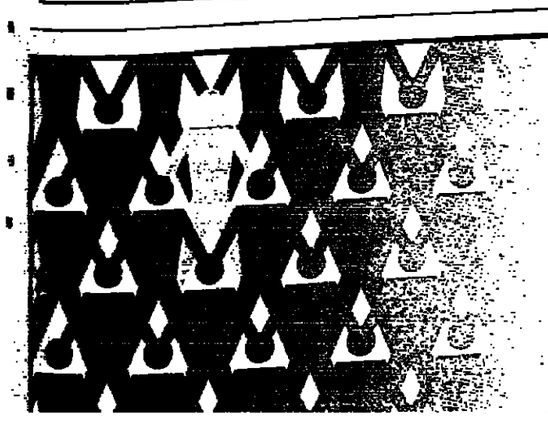
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Expansion is one major attraction

Franchising can be an ideal way for companies to raise capital and attract employees who will try hard for success, says **David Churchill**

Franchising as a means of business expansion is growing rapidly as the concept becomes more acceptable. There were some 474 active franchises identified by the British Franchise Association in its last survey, although industry sources suggest that the true number may be closer to 250.

For companies, franchising offers an ideal way to expand a business concept where they may face problems in either raising the expansion capital or in finding suitably motivated employees.

There seems little in business that cannot be franchised, as this week's National Franchise Exhibition (NFE) in Birmingham (see page 21 for details) shows. Franchises range from a five-a-side football league called 5 Elms through to major international operations.

But there are drawbacks for franchisors. Loss of management control over franchisees can sometimes lead to harming the national image that the franchisor is seeking to establish. The classic example of this was Wimpy, the fast food operator, which many years ago was forced to buy back many of its franchised outlets because of slipping standards. The company has since returned to franchising in a big way.

Another restaurant chain, Pizza Express, has also decided to buy back as many of its franchised outlets as it can. But in this case it was its recent stock market flotation that provided the expansion funds needed to take its outlets back under its own control.

In spite of the large and sometimes bewildering number of franchise opportunities available, there are several categories under which they can be loosely grouped.

☐ Cleaning Services: This has been one of the traditional franchise sectors for many years, with operators such as Dyno-Rod and Servicemaster long-established in the market.

Dyno-Rod was established more than 30 years ago by an American, and it now operates three complementary operations: the traditional Dyno-Rod drain cleaning; Dyno-Services, offering emergency plumbing, roofing and glazing services and Locks, a mobile lock-fitting business. The minimum investment is £14,000.

> There are business sectors to suit most tastes and pockets

Metro Rod, a rival, was set up in 1983, becoming a subsidiary of Thames Water in 1990. It has 40 established franchises and a further 15 planned. The minimum investment is about £23,000. Servicemaster, which has operated in the UK for 37 years, has more than 300 franchised operators in the UK. Other businesses include 200 On Location domestic and carpet cleaners and 33 Merry Maids home-cleaning services.

☐ Food: This also is a long-established sector, starting out with such operators as Mr Softee and Lyons Maid ice-cream vans, but now dominated by the fast food groups. These do not come cheaply, because of high costs of equipment and labour.

Look out for newer franchise opportunities in the UK, such as the Canadian Muffin Co, which requires a capital investment of £75,000 along with an £8,000 franchise fee. Domino's Pizza, with more than 5,000 stores throughout the world, has more than 100 UK outlets and is looking to expand by 20 outlets a year.

Home Farm Foods, recently acquired by the John Lusty Group, offers a franchise which delivers frozen recipe dishes to homes throughout Britain. The franchise costs £6,750 plus VAT.

☐ Retailing: Franchise operations vary considerably in the type of product sold — ranging from niche retailers such as My Book, which offers personalised children's books, through to business-to-business instant print shops, such as Kall Kwik and Prontaprint, and major high street shops, such as Body Shop.

A related franchise is Signs Express, which offers a sign-writing operation for retailers and other businesses. An initial investment of £27,500 is needed for this franchise.

☐ Automotive: With more than 20 million cars on the road, franchises that offer services for the driver are always popular.

Computa Tune, established for more than 14 years, specialises in fine-tuning car engines for maximum efficiency. Dent Devils offers a dent and crease removal system for the motor trade. About £12,500 is needed for this franchise.

☐ Health and Beauty: Beauty salon, Saks, won an award this year for its training and franchisee support. The Beauty Foundation offers franchises from £45,000 to £50,000.

Many of the above franchises are showing their wares at the NFE this week, or further details can be obtained in certain cases from the British Franchise Association. Steve Thomas, the exhibition's event director, says there are many new and unusual franchises exhibiting this year.

"Exhibitors include those catering for the British public's more sophisticated tastes, such as Pierre Victoire and Délice de France, companies specialising in domiciliary and nursing care, home improvement businesses such as InToto Kitchens, Ripples bathrooms and Blazes fireplaces, and retailers such as Sevenoaks Hi-Fi and Materials World," he says. "There are also recruitment specialists, property management companies, photographers and clockmakers."

● *Franchise operations and details mentioned in this article are for general illustration only and should not be taken as a recommendation.*

HUW EVANS



Philip Kempe outside McDonald's restaurant in Newport: "I have always been a big McDonald's fan"

Philip's a burger burgher

Philip Kempe, farmer property investor and former racing driver, had little idea a few years ago that he would be also running a McDonald's restaurant franchise, yet today he has three, one in Hereford and two in Newport, Gwent. *Craig Seton writes.*

Mr Kempe, 42, is one of 118 people who have bought a total of 173 McDonald's franchises, representing 25 per cent of the American company's UK restaurants.

Each franchisee will have paid, typically, between £250,000 and £500,000 for a franchise lasting 20 years, depending on the restaurant site and sales figures.

Kempe, a former Formula 3 racing driver, bought his Hereford franchise in 1993 and was so impressed by the business that he purchased two more. He became aware of the McDonald's franchising operation when he was selling his farming business and wanted another investment. "I have always been a big McDonald's fan and am impressed by standards they have anywhere in the world," he says, explaining why he took the plunge.

First there was the rigorous selection process, beginning with an initial interview, then five days at a restaurant, cooking burgers and chips, getting to know what he was taking on and allowing McDonald's to take a look at him. An intensive interview with a panel followed and the company checked references. Mr Kempe was then accepted into the McDonald's nine-month training programme covering all aspects of the business, from management to employment law and hygiene. McDonald's prefers franchisees to operate in their own area and, as he is from Monmouth, Mr Kempe bought the franchise for an existing outlet in Newport.

Almost 150 people are on his payroll at the three restaurants, including managers and an overall supervisor. He benefits from the McDonald's brand name, specialist support and a huge marketing budget. In return, he pays rent and a proportion of his sales towards advertising.

"Franchising is a fundamental part of McDonald's growth plan in the UK," Derrick Smith, the national franchising manager, says. He adds that the company is very selective and training is vital. "We're going to be partners for 20 years; it's in nobody's interest to make the wrong choice."

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A management buy out meant a fresh challenge for a Red Star executive

Putting faith into parcels

John Wheeler, a former sales executive at Red Star Parcels, seized the opportunity when the privatised company, formerly part of British Rail, opted to make franchising an integral part of its business strategy.

Earlier this year Mr Wheeler, 41, left the company when he bought the Red Star parcel point based at Heathrow airport, a business that includes a second parcels centre at Feltham, Middlesex, and covers such areas as Harrow, Wembley, Pinner and Edgware.

He says: "I thought it was a really good opportunity. I know the business inside out, the company has a good brand name and the rail network it uses is a unique selling point that no other carrier has. I would not have taken it on if I didn't think it was a good investment."

Red Star operates same day and early next day collection and delivery. It has access to the nationwide rail network which it uses in combination with air and road transport.

It handled more than two million parcels in 1994-95, when its turnover was £20 million. The company was sold to a management buy-out team in September last year which then decided that franchising was an ideal way to increase its market penetration in the highly competitive express delivery market. The company has more than 200 rail-based parcel points in 78 collection and delivery areas that are being franchised. Sixteen areas have already been sold to franchisees and over the next two years the firm is looking for entrepreneurs to take on the rest.



PETER TRIEVNOR

John Wheeler: I thought it was a really good opportunity and a good investment

Franchisees need funding of between about £20,000 and £65,000, depending on the size and type of Red Star operation they take on.

More than 60 franchises are still available, based around existing parcel points at railway stations. They are in three categories:

☐ Collection and delivery of parcels within an area, with Red Star managing the local parcel point.

☐ A parcel-point franchise, in which the franchisee runs and manages the parcel point as well as collection and delivery in an area.

☐ A parcel-point franchise that allows the franchisee to handle other delivery work.

Mr Wheeler has taken over a small staff, that includes three drivers, as part of the deal and leases vehicles from Red Star. He has recently employed a sales executive to help the business grow. The company provides sales and operational support, start-up and new product training, business advice, uniforms and software.

Nick Griffiths, Red Star's franchise development manager, says: "The most suitable candidates for franchises will be people who have successfully run a related business in the past. We are looking for entrepreneurial people who understand sales."

CRAIG SETON

Pros and cons of linking up with a famous chain

Buying-in to a good brand may bring profits, but it can create misery too, says **David Churchill**

The typical would-be franchisee used to be male, married with children, white-collar and using mainly savings to finance his first franchise business. Such a profile no longer fits. The harsh years of recession and the explosion of franchises aimed at women, have transformed the picture. Those wanting to take up a franchise now come from all walks of life, ages, gender and backgrounds.

What they all perceive is a way of moving into self-employment and ownership without some of the drawbacks of going it alone. A good franchisor offers its franchisees continued marketing and training support, a well-known brand name, the benefit of previous experience and a "safety-net" if things start to go wrong. The loneliness of the small-business operator is, to some extent, mitigated by being part of a chain, with a close relationship with the franchisor — although some franchisees find this closeness irritating and prefer eventually to branch out on their own.

The relationship some franchisees have with their franchisors can be fraught in other ways. Franchisees are often unhappy if they are asked to change their operating procedures at the request of the franchisor. Equally, they dislike the absence of flexibility in cases where sourcing of supplies has to come from the franchisor and are suspicious of the mark-up charged.

Some franchisees are also frustrated at restrictions imposed on the number of outlets they can own, a restriction often required by the franchisor to prevent the potential power that multi-unit franchisees would acquire.

For their part, franchisors are unhappy at the way some franchisees resent paying an on-going royalty or management fee once the business is successful. This is known as the "three-year itch syndrome", typically the time when franchisees start to grumble.

What makes a good franchisee? "Franchising works best for those who are prepared to live by the work ethic," says Peter Stern, senior franchise manager at NatWest Bank. "But the need to learn the basics of time management and selling are also two very important factors for a successful franchisee."

The biggest cause of failure among franchisees is a lack of basic business expertise and a poor understanding of sales and marketing. Potential franchisees have to establish whether they have the emotional and physical stamina to work many hours to establish a business, and can take the lack of security brought on by the absence of a pay cheque. In addition, it is important that the would-be franchisee discusses with his or her partner the hard work and commitment needed to make a franchise successful. Both may need to put in a great deal of work and it may be that the financial strain in the short term and possibly long hours are simply not worth it.

Once satisfied that you have the right attitude to becoming a franchisee, you then have to decide what sort of franchise operation you want to move into. Do you, for example, want to run a fast-food outlet, with unsocial hours or be constantly on call for a service business such as drain-clearing?

Choosing the franchisor is also difficult. It is possible to tell a lot about a franchising company by looking at how long it has been in business, its financial strength (including credit rating) and the bank references it offers. Potential franchisees should ask about its plans, how selective it is in choosing franchisees and how successful these become.

Ask to talk to some of its franchisees at random. Find out about the whole range of the franchised product or service — including advertising, any essential machinery and administration. Consider whether you would buy the finished product or service on the open market.

Membership of the British Franchise Association is a key element to look out for from a franchisor, since the association works hard to weed out any rogue operators.

The British Franchise Association, Thames View, Newton Road, Henley-on-Thames, Oxfordshire, RG9 1HG (01491 578050. Fax: 01491 573517). The BFA publishes an information pack for individuals at £19.50 including P&P. For companies, the information pack costs £37.50.

From pubs to printers, the route to riches

● HAIRDRESSERS, phone retailers, delivery services, print specialists and publicans are among the finalists of the Franchise of the Year award, sponsored by the British Franchise Association and Midland Bank, to be announced on Thursday.

● Northallerton hairdresser Wilson Derbyshire at 26 is the youngest of nine finalists competing for a share of the £10,000 prize money. He operates a Saks hairdressing and beauty salon, still finding time to raise more than £40,000 for local charities.

● Graham and Merryl Cornhill operate the Mobile Phone Centre in Colchester. They sold their home to take on the franchise, and now have a turnover of £4 million from seven outlets.

● Richard and Kim Bird, have achieved a turnover of £4 million with their City Link urgent deliveries services in Bristol and Swindon. "The Birds have creatively exploited and developed business within their area," says Cathryn Haynes, Midland Bank's national franchise manager.

FINALISTS

● Two print franchises have also made the final. Terry Woods has operated the Kall Kwik Printing Centre on Chiswick High Road since 1984 and is the first Kall Kwik franchisee to pass £1 million annual turnover. Andrew Murdoch, with a Prontaprint franchise at Barking in Essex, recovered from a drastic loss of business in 1990 when the town centre was re-routed, to achieve a turnover approaching £500,000.

● Jean and John Taylor took over a rural pub in Carrs Green, Inskip, Lancashire and operated it as a Greenalls Inn franchise, the Derby Arms. Greenalls was the first pub chain to franchise its operation.

● South Wales businessman Huw Smith struggled with his own cleaning business before joining the Rainbow cleaning franchise enabled him to grow his business. Now, after 20 months, he employs a staff of seven.

● Another cleaning franchisee couple, John and Julia Ford from Ashford in Kent, operate three Servicemaster franchised territories and hope to follow in the footsteps of last year's award winner, also a Servicemaster franchisee.

● Wimbledon businesswoman Sandra Redmond operates a Molly Maid domestic cleaning franchise. Pam Bader, Molly Maids UK chief executive, says "Sandra has ensured that the financial control of her business is second to none, producing a good profit and using the assets to their full potential."

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McDonald's

Banking on ways to raise capital

COMPETITION among the high street banks for a slice of the franchise action is growing as the economy picks up and borrowers search for start-up finance, *David Churchill writes*.

Yet while the banks remain the primary source of franchise finance, willing to lend up to two-thirds of the cost of a franchise investment, some franchisors and borrowers find that they can either be too restrictive in their lending terms or apply them haphazardly across Britain.

Franchisors, for example, claim that the banks do not make enough use of their head-office expertise in franchising, so individual branch managers make contrary decisions on whether to lend money.

"I would like the branch managers of banks to take more notice of a recommendation that comes down from the franchise department," says one franchisor quoted in the City University Business School's new study of franchising.

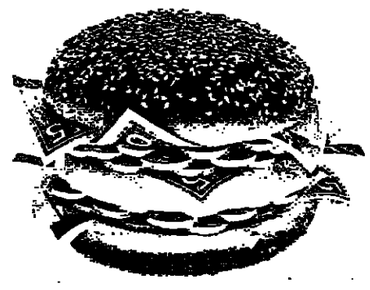
Franchisors also believe there should be better terms for lending to qualified franchisees, because of the lower risks involved, while franchisees themselves — in common with all small business start-ups — are disparaging of the banks' lack of understanding of cash-flow and other problems.

Even so, dealing with a bank is generally regarded as a sounder way of raising finance than trying alternative lenders. The high street banks have been involved in lending to small businesses, including franchisees, for many years and therefore do have some considerable expertise despite the criticisms.

NatWest, for example, set up a dedicated franchise department in 1981, followed by Lloyds Bank in 1982, the Midland in 1983 and the Royal Bank of Scotland in 1984.

Peter Stern, NatWest's senior franchise manager, says: "There is a much greater understanding now about what franchising is and what it has to offer."

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IN ASSOCIATION WITH Sky Sports interactive



Slaven Bilic, of West Ham, celebrates his goal against Liverpool. As a defender, his goals are highly valuable in ITF

WHAT can only be described as an eclectic selection has brought a Cheshire man the weekly prize in *The Times*'s Interactive Team Football game. Mr A. Newbald, of Hyde, garnered 37 points this week in ITF, with one player in his Dock Green Rovers XI that has not yet played first-team football this season.

Mark Bosnich, the Aston Villa goalkeeper, has been injured for the opening weeks of the FA Carling Premiership, giving him a grand total of zero, but with goalkeepers often proving expensive, it may be no bad thing. Yet Mr Newbald has chosen other players who have played only intermittently this season — Dixon and Adams, of Arsenal, and Redknapp, of Liverpool.

Mr Newbald's team is:

Goalkeeper
M Bosnich (Aston Villa)

Full backs
L Dixon (Arsenal)
G Neville (Manchester Utd)

Central defenders
A Adams (Arsenal)
R Gough (Rangers)

Midfield players
J Ebbrell (Everton)
J Redknapp (Liverpool)
S McCall (Rangers)
M Gayle (Wimbledon)

Strikers
A Cottee (West Ham)
G Watson (Southampton)

Manager
A Ferguson (Manchester Utd)

If you think your team could be doing better, you can use the ITF transfer system to improve your fortunes. This allows you to change up to two players each week and to adjust your team if one of your players is actually transferred out of the FA Carling Premiership or Bell's Scottish League premier division.

You can make transfers only by telephone. Using a Touch-tone (DTMF) telephone (most push-button telephones with a * and a hash key are Touch-tone), call the **0891 866 968** line during the times given. From outside the United Kingdom, you must call **0044 990 200 668.**

When making a transfer, you must ensure that the team does not contain more than two individuals (two players or one player and a manager) from the same club.

If you are lagging behind the leading team selectors, the transfer system will be an appealing option to you in the chase for the prizes — the overall £50,000, monthly £1,000 or weekly £250.

☐ ***All Interactive Team Football transfer queries should be directed to 0171-757 7016. All other inquiries can be made on 01582 488 122.***

THIS WEEK'S TRANSFERS

IN

40609.....	Jody Morris	Chelsea	£2.00m
51908.....	Mikkel Beck	Middlesbrough	£2.50m
60202.....	Arsène Wenger	Arsenal	£3.50m

OUT

11602.....	Zeljko Kalac	Leicester City	£0.50m
33002.....	Andy Thom	Heart of Midlothian	£0.75m
42608.....	Andy Turner	Tottenham Hotspur	£0.25m

LOANED PLAYERS

E McGoldrick (from Arsenal to Manchester City, one month); M Taylor (Derby to Crewe, one month); D Wassall (Derby to Manchester City, two weeks); G Kavanagh (Middlesbrough to Stoke, three weeks); D Huckerby (Newcastle to Millwall, one week); C Holland (Newcastle to Birmingham, two weeks); B Angell (Sunderland to Stockport, one month); K Brown (West Ham to Reading, two weeks). *Loan periods subject to fluctuation*

HOW THE SCORING SYSTEM WORKS IN ITF

All 1996-7 matches in the FA Carling Premiership, FA Cup, Bell's Scottish League premier division and Tennents Scottish Cup from August 17 count for points. Penalty shootouts do not count but results decided in this way will count for managers.

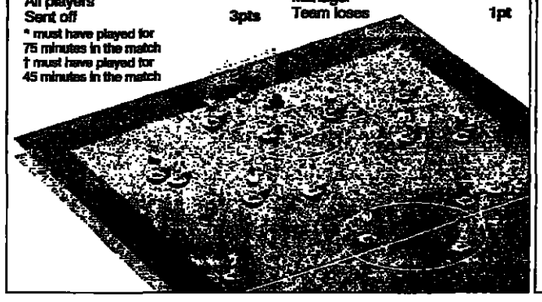
POINTS SCORED

Goalkeeper		Striker	
Keeps clean sheet*	4pts	Scores goal	2pts
Scores goal	3pts	All players	
Saves penalty	1pt	Appearance†	1pt
Full backs/Central defender		Scores hat-trick	6pts
Keeps clean sheet*	3pts	Manager	
Scores goal	3pts	Team wins	3pts
Midfield player		Team draws	1pt
Keeps clean sheet*	1pt		
Scores goal	2pts		

POINTS DEDUCTED

Goalkeeper		Booked	1pt
Concedes goal	2pts	Concedes penalty	1pt
Full backs/Central defender		Misses penalty	1pt
Concedes goal	1pt	Scores own goal	1pt
All players		Manager	
Sent off	3pts	Team loses	1pt

* must have played for 75 minutes in the match
† must have played for 45 minutes in the match



ENTER TIMES ITF BY TELEPHONE — THERE ARE BIG PRIZES TO BE WON EVERY WEEK AND EVERY MONTH

The Manager of the Week and the Manager of the Month are up for grabs from now until the end of the season. You could be a winner of either by entering a team today. The Manager of the Week or Month can be won by any team no matter where it is in the league, the prize for the Manager of the Week or Month simply goes to the person whose team scores the highest points in any one week or month.

The prize for the Manager of the Week is £250 cash, plus a £250 Sports Gift Voucher for an amateur football team in your community — as nominated by you. The Manager of the Month will receive £1,000 cash.

You can still be a big winner in ITF. To enter today, just follow the instructions below.

Enter ITF by phone on 0891 405 011

If telephoning from outside the United Kingdom, call 44 990 100 320

1. You must use a Touch-tone (DTMF) telephone (most push-button telephones with a * and a hash key are Touch-tone).
2. Choose 1 goalkeeper, 2 full backs, 2 central defenders, 4 midfielders, 2 strikers and a manager.
3. Do not spend more than £35 million.
4. Do not choose more than two individuals (2 players or 1 player and 1 manager) from any one football club.
5. Once you have chosen your team, call the entry line, above, and follow these step-by-step instructions.

a) You must tap in (not speak) the full set of selections (using the five-digit player codes) for each of your 11 chosen players and your manager.

b) You must speak the name of your team (no more than 16 characters) your name, address, with postcode, and daytime telephone number.

c) Finally, you will be given a ten-digit personal identification number (PIN) at the end of the call. You must keep a note of this number and your chosen team as no postal notification will be sent.

See Sky Text, page 118

0891 calls cost 39p per minute cheap rate and 49p per minute at all other times. Your call will cost approximately double if made from a pay phone. In the event of there being more than one Manager of the Week or Month, the winner will be chosen at random. All ITF rules apply, a copy of which will be made available on request.

HOW TO MAKE A TRANSFER IN ITF

Call 0891 866 968

If telephoning from outside the United Kingdom call 44 990 200 668.

You may make transfers only by telephone using a Touch-tone (DTMF) telephone (most push-button telephones with a * and a hash key are Touch-tone). You will need your ten-digit selectors PIN, which you will have to tap in, not speak. Follow the simple instructions and tap in the five-digit codes of the players you are transferring.

You may only make transfers in one team per telephone call. If you have entered two teams and want to make transfers in both, you must make two separate calls.

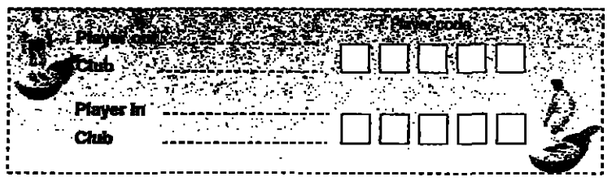
You may transfer two (but no more than two) individuals (two players or one player and a manager) during a transfer week. A player being transferred out must be replaced by one from the same category and you must keep to the team format of a goalkeeper, two full backs, two central defenders, four midfield players, two strikers and a manager. You must not exceed the £35 million budget and have no more than two individuals from the same club. Incorrect transfers will be rejected and your team will remain in its previous form.

The transfer week runs from 00.01 on Tuesday to midnight the following Monday. Transfers made before noon each day will become effective immediately. Transfers made after noon will become effective for matches played after noon on the following day.

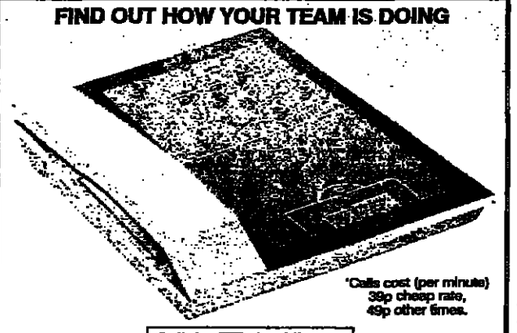
Your new player only starts to score points for you when his transfer is registered. The current score of the player transferred out remains part of your team score but he then ceases to score for you.

If a player or manager moves teams during the season, it may affect the composition of your team. You must adjust your team by using the transfer system to avoid missing out on points.

Calls will be charged at 39p per minute cheap rate, 49p per minute at other times. Calls made from public telephones may cost approximately twice as much.



FIND OUT HOW YOUR TEAM IS DOING



*Calls cost (per minute) 39p cheap rate, 49p other times.

Call the ITF checkline on
0891 884 643
Outside UK: 44 990 100 343

Check your points total and your ranking. You need a Touch-tone (DTMF) telephone (most push-button telephones with a * and a hash key are Touch-tone) and your ten-digit selector's PIN. Calls made from public telephones may cost approximately twice as much.

THE LEADING 250 ENTRIES IN THE TIMES INTERACTIVE TEAM FOOTBALL GAME

Pos	Team	(Player's name)	Pts
1	NST Monkstone	(J Staszkiewicz)	174
2=	Sophie And Sam	(G Foster)	167
2=	Mean Machine	(P Ford)	167
4=	Nobby 5	(J Brown)	163
4=	Nobby 20	(J Brown)	163
6=	John Hunt Taunton D	(J Hunt)	162
6=	Pin Ups Two	(P Tusler)	162
6=	Plastic Fitters 10	(T Feehily)	162
9=	Henning Berg Kick I	(I Miura)	161
9=	Thom Foolery FC	(M Horan)	161
11=	John Hunt Taunton F	(J Hunt)	160
11=	Nobby 34	(J Brown)	160
11=	Erewenge On Judus F	(N Hir)	160
14=	Hull Red Devils	(G Foster)	159
14=	Jones Boys Three	(M Jones)	159
14=	Flying Foreigners	(D Thomas)	159
14=	Le Boeuf And 2 Veg	(M Sawley)	159
18=	Daggers	(V Cox)	158
18=	John Hunt Taunton H	(J Hunt)	158
18=	John Hunt Taunton E	(J Hunt)	158
18=	Best Of The Best	(R Ruperelia)	158
18=	Caroline B	(A Luckhurst)	158
18=	Thompson's XI	(G Thompson)	158
18=	Spring City	(A L Collins)	158
25=	Soccer Superstars	(J McCallion)	157
25=	Sky Times III	(L McCullough)	157
25=	Arrogant FC	(F K Taylor)	157
28=	Skyforest	(A Burton)	156
28=	Polly's Pride	(P Smiley)	156
28=	Beyond Fault	(P Foster)	156
28=	West Wonderers	(S West)	156
28=	Aldecurcic Villa	(M Jukes)	156
28=	Brain's Team	(B Howes)	156
34=	AB 4	(A Boyland)	155
34=	TWFC 1	(T Webley)	155
36	Le Boeufeaters	(J Roebuck)	154
37=	Nobby J	(J Brown)	153
37=	Plan BFC	(R Ayres)	153
37=	Euro Paulo 1	(P O'Connell)	153
37=	Gianluca At Me	(P Naylar)	153
41=	Where's Ray Gone?	(P Fromm)	152
41=	E	(M Corless)	152
41=	FC Very Much So	(A P Howard)	152
41=	Storm	(P Mills)	152
41=	4 4 2	(K Browne)	152
41=	Diffcl	(D Findlay)	152
41=	Jenny's Skates	(D S Mills)	152
48=	Inta Goal	(G Lippett)	151
48=	—	(no name)	151
48=	Graeme's Greats 1	(G Carvel)	151
48=	Ginger	(T P Lash)	151
48=	Uni Boys Utd 1	(B Gardiner)	151
53=	Beeston Celtic	(B McGivern)	150
53=	Moldova	(I Aldous)	150
53=	Snappers United	(W Gayter)	150
53=	Jaywalkers	(D Ashton)	150
53=	Shack Attack	(R Shackleton)	150
53=	Noah's Ark	(G P Dolan)	150
53=	Alien X1	(A Djemil)	150
53=	Natascha's Team	(N Engel)	150
53=	The Trainer	(G Bannister)	150
62=	No	(H Somerville)	149
62=	The Foreign Legion	(R Horsler)	149
62=	T 20	(T Basaran)	149
62=	Jones Boys 8	(M Jones)	149
62=	Sitting Ducks	(A Piano)	149
62=	Perfecto Allstars	(A Piano)	149
62=	Smelly Wellies XI	(A Shabir)	149
62=	Tamechester Rovers	(M Tame)	149
62=	Careless Whisper	(L Geary)	149
62=	Class 1	(R J Weston)	149
62=	Barry's Team	(B Matthews)	149
73=	1st Eleft	(K J Burns)	148
73=	It's About Revenge C	(R Gohil)	148
73=	Nonads	(N Broom)	148
73=	Smyth's Stonkers	(M Jack)	148
73=	Set Against Cys	(S Shipley)	148
73=	Fowler's Furys	(B Byrnes)	148
73=	Wollaston Wolves	(D Garratt)	148
73=	Champions Elect	(L Spence)	148
73=	Purple Rain	(B Gohil)	148
73=	Foreign Legion	(K Rowling)	148
73=	Caroline D	(A Luckhurst)	148
73=	Joe's Hotshots	(N Howe)	148
73=	Cool Side Burns	(M Roper)	148
73=	Motley Town	(K McGuire)	148
73=	Essex Eagles 96 FC	(C Jennings)	148
73=	Toto Calcio	(A Daye)	148
73=	Lochside All Stars	(W Cowan)	148
90=	Nobby	(J Brown)	147
90=	Albian Harries XI	(A Hynes)	147
90=	The Foreign Legion	(A Cheung)	147
90=	Athletico Storm	(P Mills)	147
90=	Devon Demons	(D G Flory)	147
90=	Down And Out	(I Carruthers)	147
90=	Brill XI	(R Segar)	147
90=	Scampi	(D Collier)	147
90=	Europe United	(P O'Donnell)	147
90=	Rapid Viennets	(M Forrest)	147
90=	Rodents Rovers	(M Daniels)	147
90=	Dolphin Stars	(D Bowler)	147
90=	First Eleven	(L Sawley)	147
103=	Watch Out United	(I Kaderdhoy)	146
103=	Former Champions	(A Murhabin)	146
103=	Hopeful Hotshots	(H Rimmer)	146
103=	Roisin's Raiders	(P M Handley)	146
103=	Steady Scorers	(J Stevenson)	146
103=	Downs Destroyers	(R McCullough)	146
103=	Inter Jakes FC	(S A Jakes)	146
110=	PJ Thistle	(R Newbould)	145
110=	Dutch Courage	(R van Ruitenbeek)	145
110=	Friends 36	(R Fyfe)	145
110=	A2	(K Farhall)	145
110=	John Hunt Taunton G	(J Hunt)	145
110=	Wtwfc3	(G Atkinson)	145
110=	Emma And Helen	(D Linsley)	145
110=	Randy Sausages XI	(A Pycraft)	145
110=	NK 3	(N Ross)	145
110=	JS August Monthly 1	(J Swirles)	145
110=	Cannon's Hotshots	(D Cannon)	145
110=	Team Goals	(S Farnaby)	145
110=	Hutton Hotspur	(P Sheriden)	145
110=	Nl Vw Awhd	(V Wadhwa)	145
110=	Studs Up	(S Taylor)	145
110=	Priory Rangers	(J Palmer)	145
110=	Lucy's Legion	(J Gendall)	145
110=	Turnip United	(O Ashe)	145
110=	The Muppets	(A Mount)	145
110=	Blue Stars	(N Broomhall)	145
110=	Leasowes One	(M Price)	145
131=	Brady's Babes 2	(S Brady)	144
131=	Look Out Andy Gray	(R Dawson)	144
131=	SJB	(M Buckley)	144
131=	Mac's Monkeys	(M McBride)	144
131=	Nobby 33	(J Brown)	144
131=	Little Dons	(P Hoyle)	144
131=	ST Utd	(M O'Brien)	144
131=	The Untouchables	(N Armstrong)	144
131=	Beyond Care	(P Foster)	144
131=	The Foreign Legion	(S Allen)	144
131=	Real Craif	(P Darnell)	144
131=	Seaford Flyers	(L Reed)	144
131=	Fortuna Sandwich	(A J Finkel)	144
131=	Do I Not Like Man Utd	(C D Woodward)	144
131=	The Fat Kebabs	(I Saiyed)	144
131=	—	(G Hinds)	144
131=	—	(no name)	144
131=	Pop Of Blues	(P Fitzpatrick)	144
131=	Aces Eleven	(S Nehra)	144
131=	Kanfer's Cronies	(E Kanfer)	144
131=	Shooting Stars	(S Scott)	144
131=	Butwith Utd 3	(M Larcombe)	144
131=	—	(P Godard)	144
131=	Sarsaparilla	(G Bowe)	144
131=	Bumbles XI	(S Jones)	144
131=	Cookie Monsters	(S Barr)	144
157=	Def Con 3	(M Peck)	143
157=	Abc	(M Baber)	143
157=	Lesley's Legmen	(L Michaelis)	143
157=	Nobby 7	(J Brown)	143
157=	Nobby 11	(J Brown)	143
157=	Scully	(D Sculthorp)	143
157=	The Dansters	(C C Vewers)	143
157=	King Cantona	(A Oldbury)	143
157=	Dour Rangers 3	(I Clayton)	143
157=	Real Casson	(T Casson)	143
157=	Beep Cleap Chimney	(M Swallow)	143
157=	Parlez Vous	(A Weir)	143
157=	Harrison's Dream Team	(P Thornton)	143
157=	Dammo's Dudes	(D McCarthy)	143
157=	Shipmates United	(M Barratt)	143
157=	Ashley FC	(L A Taylor)	143
157=	Smallbone Rovers	(A Bowd)	143
174=	12 Sick Parrots	(T Mayor)	142
174=	Jones Boys Sky	(M Jones)	142
174=	JK Allstars	(J Knipe)	142
174=	Nobby 14	(J Brown)	142
174=	Airstir	(I Fyfe)	142
174=	Staffis	(I Longstaff)	142
174=	Al's 1st 11	(A Davies)	142
174=	Riggy's Roarers	(A Rigg)	142
174=	BB's Boys	(C Cowey)	142
174=	Fifthpool City	(P Rowe)	142
174=	Layton's Lions 7	(R Layton)	142
174=	Golden 11	(L Mills)	142
174=	Turner's Tigers	(C Turner)	142
174=	Southside Utd	(P Mulligan)	142
174=	Riverside Rovers	(J Conroy)	142
174=	Good Greek	(D Ellis)	142
174=	Baxter's Babes	(M Baxter)	142
174=	Half A Chance	(T Reading)	142
174=	Keltic Warriors	(D Concannon)	142
174=	Bristol Rovers Reser	(G Cox)	142
174=	Wanstead Wanners	(H Gray)	142
174=	Not Man U	(R Horseler)	142
174=	Rude Awakening	(R Crompton)	142
174=	AC Fantasy FC	(M Skippen)	142
174=	Silver Shooters	(P Farnworth)	142
174=	GR Team II	(S Brook)	142
174=	White Feathers	(M Catchpole)	142
174=	Harts FC	(N Hart)	142
174=	Wizzards Of Oz	(P Osborn)	142
174=	XI Wildmen	(M Wildman)	142
174=	Gallowglass Utd	(M Deery)	142
174=	Matthews XI	(M Caunt)	142
174=	Ziggy's Boys	(Z Ahmed)	142
174=	Hazza's Dream Team	(P Thornton)	142
174=	The Dreams	(C Rye)	142
174=	Todd Utd	(I M Todd)	142
174=	Yeasthas All	(B Irki)	142
174=	Rocky I	(K S de Silva)	142
174=	Elland Jesters	(M Gallagher)	142
174=	Dynamo Deekies	(D Scott)	142
214=	Botak United 1	(J Pull)	141
214=	Clive From Down Under	(K James)	141
214=	Ratho Station Raider	(J Kerr)	141
214=	Ivy's Beatt	(D Tuthill)	141
214=	All Sorts XI	(J Jones)	141
214=	Layton's Lions	(R Layton)	141
214=	JSS 3	(J Sanderson)	141
214=	Bacon Sandwich	(D L Davis)	141
214=	Higham's Park AFC	(G Bennett)	141
214=	Cholm Chix 69	(Scarlet)	141
214=	Red Stars	(I Pickard)	141
214=	Ipswich Allstars	(M Carmen)	141
214=	Fowney City	(P Fownes)	141
214=	Green's Park	(A Green)	141
214=	The Chrispies	(C Potter)	141
214=	All Sorts XI	(J Jones)	141
214=	Reservoir Dogs	(A Piano)	141
214=	Guiltiagod	(P Roberts)	141
214=	Jozos Bozos	(S Timm)	141
214=	Beaconsfield AFC	(M Shoulin)	141
214=	Matty's Heroes II	(M Brack)	141
214=	R + N Flashboys	(R Brown)	141
214=	Brainbows United	(G Wales)	141
214=	Porlis FC 2	(S Mellor)	141
238=	Flavio's Left Foot	(A Ozanne)	140
238=	Ice 3	(T Alder)	140
238=	I	(M Corless)	140
238=	Percy's Progress	(M Persich)	140
238=	Sigma B	(K Porter)	140
238=	AJK	(K Hughes)	140
238=	Liquid Football	(C Stevens)	140
238=	Bramhall Bashers	(J Thakkar)	140
238=	China Castle	(B Gohil)	140
238=	Johnny Foreigner	(K Saunders)	140
238=	—	(no name)	140
238=	Nose Goblins	(S Hawes)	140
238=	—	(no name)	140

هكذا من الأصل

The ITF players, their points and their values if you are considering the transfer option

Code	Name	Team	£m	Pts Wk	Pts Ov
10101	M Watt	Aberdeen	1.50	0	-3
10102	N Walker	Aberdeen	1.00	-1	0
10201	D Seaman	Arsenal	5.00	+5	+16
10202	V Bartram	Arsenal	0.75	0	0
10203	J Lukic	Arsenal	0.75	0	-8
10301	M Bosnich	Aston Villa	3.50	0	0
10302	M Oakes	Aston Villa	1.00	0	+13
10401	T Flowers	Blackburn	3.00	+5	-10
10402	S Given	Blackburn	2.00	0	0
10501	G Marshall	Celtic	3.50	-3	-3
10601	D Kharine	Chelsea	2.50	0	+10
10602	K Hitchcock	Chelsea	2.00	-1	-10
10701	S Ogrizovic	Coventry City	1.50	+5	-15
10702	J Filan	Coventry City	0.50	0	0
10801	M Taylor	Derby County	1.00	0	0
10802	R Hoult	Derby County	1.00	-3	-4
10901	A Maxwell	Dundee United	0.50	+5	-5
10902	L Key	Dundee United	0.50	0	0
11001	I Westwater	Dunfermline	0.50	0	-18
11101	N Southall	Everton	2.50	+5	0
11102	J Kearton	Everton	0.50	0	0
11103	P Gerrard	Everton	2.50	0	0
11201	G Rousset	Hearts	2.00	-1	-16
11301	J Leighton	Hibernian	1.50	-5	+6
11401	D Lekovic	Kilmarnock	1.00	-1	-26
11501	M Beeney	Leeds United	1.50	0	0
11502	P Evans	Leeds United	0.25	0	0
11503	N Martyn	Leeds United	2.50	-1	-10
11601	K Poole	Leicester City	1.00	0	0
11603	K Keller	Leicester City	1.00	+5	-3
11701	D James	Liverpool	5.00	-1	+12
11702	A Warner	Liverpool	0.50	0	0
11801	P Schmeichel	Manchester Utd	5.00	+5	+6
11802	R van der Gouw	Manchester Utd	1.00	0	+5
11901	G Walsh	Middlesbrough	1.50	0	0
11902	A Miller	Middlesbrough	1.50	-7	-14
12001	S Howie	Motherwell	1.50	+5	+5
12101	S Hislop	Newcastle	4.00	0	-3
12102	P Smicek	Newcastle	3.00	0	+4
12201	M Crossley	Nottm Forest	2.50	-1	-12
12202	A Fettis	Nottm Forest	0.75	0	0
12203	T Wright	Nottm Forest	0.75	0	0
12301	S Thomson	Raith	0.50	0	-19
12401	A Goram	Rangers	5.00	+5	+16
12501	K Pressman	Sheffield Wed	2.00	-2	-5
12601	D Beasant	Southampton	1.00	-5	-10
12602	N Moss	Southampton	0.25	+6	+3
12702	L Perez	Sunderland	0.50	0	0
11803	A Coton	Sunderland	1.00	-3	+12
12801	I Walker	Tottenham	3.50	-3	+5
12901	L Miklosko	West Ham	2.00	-3	-13
12902	S Mautone	West Ham	0.50	0	+5
13001	N Sullivan	Wimbledon	1.00	+4	+10
13002	P Heald	Wimbledon	1.00	0	0



Phil Babb, the Liverpool defender, has gained 15 points so far. This could be the time to add him to your team

Code	Name	Team	£m	Pts Wk	Pts Ov
42701	M Gray	Sunderland	2.50	+1	+13
42702	S Agnew	Sunderland	1.50	+1	+10
42703	A Rae	Sunderland	1.50	0	0
42704	P Bracewell	Sunderland	0.75	0	+11
42705	M Smith	Sunderland	1.00	0	0
42801	D Anderton	Tottenham	5.50	0	+6
42802	R Fox	Tottenham	4.00	+1	+9
42803	D Howells	Tottenham	2.00	0	+8
42804	J Dozzell	Tottenham	2.00	0	+2
42805	A Sinton	Tottenham	1.50	+1	+8
42806	R Rosenthal	Tottenham	1.50	0	+1
42809	A Nielsen	Tottenham	2.50	+1	+5
42901	P Futre	West Ham	3.50	0	+4
42902	I Bishop	West Ham	2.00	+1	+3
42903	M Hughes	West Ham	2.00	+1	+15
42904	D Williamson	West Ham	1.50	0	+7
42905	J Moncur	West Ham	1.50	+1	+2
42907	S Lazarides	West Ham	0.25	0	+5
43001	R Earle	Wimbledon	4.00	+4	+17
43002	O Leonhardsen	Wimbledon	2.50	+3	+5
43003	M Gayle	Wimbledon	2.00	+6	+16
43004	V Jones	Wimbledon	1.50	+2	+7
43005	N Ardley	Wimbledon	0.50	+3	+13
43006	S Castledine	Wimbledon	0.50	0	0
43007	P Fear	Wimbledon	0.25	0	0

Code	Name	Team	£m	Pts Wk	Pts Ov
50101	S Booth	Aberdeen	4.50	0	0
50102	D Shearer	Aberdeen	3.00	0	+2
50103	W Dodds	Aberdeen	5.00	0	0
50201	I Wright	Arsenal	7.00	+1	+21
50202	D Bergkamp	Arsenal	7.00	0	+8
50203	J Hartson	Arsenal	3.50	+3	+8
50205	C Kiwomya	Arsenal	0.50	0	0
50301	D Yorke	Aston Villa	7.50	0	+6
50302	S Milosevic	Aston Villa	5.00	0	+7
50303	T Johnson	Aston Villa	4.00	0	+6
50304	J Joachim	Aston Villa	2.00	0	+4
50402	K Gallacher	Blackburn	3.00	0	+5
50404	C Sutton	Blackburn	2.50	+1	+8
50405	G Fenton	Blackburn	2.50	+1	+3
50406	N Gudmundsson	Blackburn	1.00	0	0
50501	P van Hooijdonk	Celtic	7.00	0	+13
50502	J Cadete	Celtic	6.00	0	+12
50601	G Vialli	Chelsea	5.00	+3	+13
50602	M Hughes	Chelsea	4.00	0	+5
50603	J Spencer	Chelsea	4.00	0	+1
50605	M Stein	Chelsea	0.50	0	0
50701	N Whelan	Coventry City	6.00	+1	+8
50702	D Dublin	Coventry City	5.00	+1	+7
50703	P Ndlovu	Coventry City	3.00	0	0
50801	D Sturridge	Derby County	3.00	+1	+7
50802	M Gabbiadini	Derby County	2.00	0	+5
50803	A Ward	Derby County	2.00	+1	0
50804	R Willems	Derby County	1.00	0	+5
50902	O Coyle	Dundee United	2.00	+1	+3
51001	A Moore	Dunfermline	2.00	0	+4
51002	S Petrie	Dunfermline	2.00	+1	+5
51101	D Ferguson	Everton	6.00	0	+8
51102	G Stuart	Everton	3.00	+3	+8
51104	P Rideout	Everton	2.00	0	+1
51201	J Robertson	Hearts	3.50	+3	+6
51202	C Cameron	Hearts	3.50	+5	+11
51203	D Beckford	Hearts	0.50	+1	+3
51301	K Wright	Hibernian	3.00	+1	+7
51302	D Jackson	Hibernian	3.00	+3	+10
51401	P Wright	Kilmarnock	3.00	+1	+12
51501	A Yeboah	Leeds United	7.00	0	0
51502	I Rush	Leeds United	3.50	0	+6
51504	B Deane	Leeds United	2.00	0	+1
51505	M Hateley	Leeds United	2.00	0	+1
51601	S Claridge	Leicester City	2.50	0	+9
51602	E Heskey	Leicester City	2.00	+3	+13
51603	M Robins	Leicester City	0.75	0	+1
51604	I Marshall	Leicester City	0.75	+1	+4
51701	R Fowler	Liverpool	9.00	0	+11
51702	S Collymore	Liverpool	8.00	+2	+10
51801	E Cantona	Manchester Utd	8.50	+1	+14
51802	P Scholes	Manchester Utd	5.00	0	+1
51803	A Cole	Manchester Utd	4.50	0	+1
51804	O Solskjaer	Manchester Utd	3.00	+5	+11
51901	N Barmby	Middlesbrough	4.00	+1	+10
51902	J Fjortoft	Middlesbrough	2.50	0	0
51903	J Hendrie	Middlesbrough	0.75	0	0
51905	F Ravanelli	Middlesbrough	5.00	0	+24
52001	T Coyne	Motherwell	2.00	0	0
52002	D Arnott	Motherwell	1.50	+3	+12
50401	A Shearer	Newcastle	10.0	0	+15
52101	L Ferdinand	Newcastle	8.50	0	+14
52102	F Asprilla	Newcastle	6.50	0	+3
52103	P Beardsley	Newcastle	5.00	0	+6
52104	P Kitson	Newcastle	1.50	0	0
52105	D Huckerby	Newcastle	0.50	0	0
52201	D Saunders	Nottm Forest	3.50	+1	+10
52202	B Roy	Nottm Forest	3.00	+1	+1
52203	P McGregor	Nottm Forest	1.50	0	0
52204	K Campbell	Nottm Forest	1.50	0	+16
52205	J Lee	Nottm Forest	1.50	+3	+4
52206	S Howe	Nottm Forest	0.50	0	0
52207	A Silenzi	Nottm Forest	0.50	0	+1
52301	P Duffield	Raith	2.00	+1	+7
52401	G Durie	Rangers	6.00	0	+3
52402	E Andersen	Rangers	5.00	0	0
52403	A McColst	Rangers	5.00	0	+16
52501	D Hirst	Sheffield Wed	3.00	+1	+5
52502	A Booth	Sheffield Wed	2.50	+1	+12
52503	M Bright	Sheffield Wed	1.50	0	0
52504	G Whittingham	Sheffield Wed	1.50	+1	+12
52505	O Donaldson	Sheffield Wed	0.50	0	0
52506	R Humphreys	Sheffield Wed	2.00	+1	+5
52601	M Le Tissier	Southampton	7.00	+6	+13
52602	N Shipperley	Southampton	3.50	+2	+8
52603	G Watson	Southampton	1.50	+4	+5
52604	F Bennett	Southampton	0.25	0	0
52701	P Stewart	Sunderland	1.00	-3	+1
52702	C Russell	Sunderland	1.00	0	+1
52703	D Kelly	Sunderland	1.00	0	+1
52704	L Howey	Sunderland	0.50	+1	+1
52705	M Bridges	Sunderland	0.50	0	0
52706	B Angell	Sunderland	0.25	0	0
52708	N Quinn	Sunderland	3.00	0	+7
52801	E Sheringham	Tottenham	8.00	+1	+6
52802	C Armstrong	Tottenham	7.00	0	+10
52901	F Raducioiu	West Ham	3.00	0	+3
52902	I Dumitrescu	West Ham	2.50	0	+2
52903	I Dowie	West Ham	2.00	+1	+4
52904	A Cottee	West Ham	2.00	+1	+3
52905	S Jones	West Ham	1.50	0	+2
53001	D Holdsworth	Wimbledon	3.00	+1	+3
53002	E Ekoku	Wimbledon	3.00	+5	+12
53003	J Goodman	Wimbledon	1.50	0	+3
53004	J Euell	Wimbledon	0.75	0	0
53005	A Clarke	Wimbledon	0.75	0	+5
53006	M Harford	Wimbledon	0.50	0	0
53007	G Blissett	Wimbledon	0.50	0	0

Code	Name	Team	£m	Pts Wk	Pts Ov
20101	S McKimmie	Aberdeen	2.00	0	+3
20201	L Dixon	Arsenal	3.00	+4	+7
20202	N Winterburn	Arsenal	3.00	+1	+8
20203	S Morrow	Arsenal	1.00	0	+4
20301	S Staunton	Aston Villa	3.00	0	+13
20302	A Wright	Aston Villa	3.00	0	+14
20303	G Charles	Aston Villa	2.50	0	0
20304	P King	Aston Villa	0.25	0	0
20305	F Nelson	Aston Villa	3.00	0	+8
20401	H Berg	Blackburn	3.00	0	-5
20402	G Le Saux	Blackburn	3.00	0	0
20403	J Kenna	Blackburn	3.00	0	-4
20404	G Croft	Blackburn	1.50	+4	+4
20501	J McNamara	Celtic	3.00	-1	-1
20502	T McKinlay	Celtic	3.00	-3	+1
20601	D Petrescu	Chelsea	3.00	0	+10
20602	S Clarke	Chelsea	2.00	0	+8
20603	T Phelan	Chelsea	2.00	0	0
20604	S Minto	Chelsea	1.00	-1	+3
20701	D Burrows	Coventry City	1.50	+4	-5
20703	B Borrows	Coventry City	1.00	+4	-1
20704	M Hall	Coventry City	1.00	+4	+4
20705	R Genaux	Coventry City	1.50	0	-2
20801	C Powell	Derby County	1.50	-1	+4
20802	D Yates	Derby County	1.00	0	-2
20803	J Kavanagh	Derby County	0.25	0	0
20804	P Parker	Derby County	1.00	0	+4
20901	M Malpas	Dundee United	1.00	+4	+4
20902	M Perry	Dundee United	0.50	+4	-2
20903	N Duffy	Dundee United	0.50	0	0
21001	C Miller	Dunfermline	0.25	-1	-6
21002	A Tod	Dunfermline	0.25	-1	-5
21101	M Hottiger	Everton	2.50	0	0
21102	A Hinchcliffe	Everton	2.00	+4	+5
21103	E Barrett	Everton	1.50	+4	+7
21104	M Jackson	Everton	1.00	0	0
21201	G Locke	Hearts	2.00	0	0
21202	N Pointon	Hearts	1.00	-2	-6
21301	W Miller	Hibernian	1.00	-2	+9
21302	A Dow	Hibernian	1.00	-2	+9
21402	G MacPherson	Kilmarnock	0.50	0	-10
21501	G Kelly	Leeds United	3.00	0	-3
21502	A Dorigo	Leeds United	2.50	0	0
21503	P Beesley	Leeds United	0.50	0	0
21601	M Whitlow	Leicester City	0.50	+4	+8
21602	S Grayson	Leicester City	0.50	+3	+7
21603	N Lewis	Leicester City	0.50	0	0
21604	F Rolling	Leicester City	0.25	0	0
21701	R Jones	Liverpool	3.00	0	0
21702	S Harkness	Liverpool	1.50	0	0
21703	S Bjornebye	Liverpool	0.50	0	+16
21704	P Charnock	Liverpool	0.25	0	0
21801	D Irwin	Manchester Utd	4.00	+4	+17
21802	G Neville	Manchester Utd	3.00	+4	+11
21803	P Neville	Manchester Utd	3.00	0	+3
21901	N Cox	Middlesbrough	2.50	-1	-1
21902	C Branco	Middlesbrough	1.50	-3	-3
21903	C Morris	Middlesbrough	1.50	0	0
21904	C Fleming	Middlesbrough	0.75	-3	-4
21905	C Blackmore	Middlesbrough	0.25	0	0
22002	S McMillan	Motherwell	0.50	0	+2
22101	W Barton	Newcastle	3.00	0	0
22102	S Watson	Newcastle	3.00	0	+5
22103	R Elliott	Newcastle	2.50	0	+1
22104	J Beresford	Newcastle	2.50	0	+2
22201	S Pearce	Nottm Forest	4.00	0	0
22202	D Lyttle	Nottm Forest	2.00	0	-4
22203	A Haaland	Nottm Forest	1.00	-1	+4
22204	N Jerkan	Nottm Forest	2.00	0	+1
22301	P Bonar	Raith	0.75	-1	-7
22302	D Kirkwood	Raith	0.50	0	-5
22401	D Robertson	Rangers	2.50	0	0
22402	J Brown	Rangers	2.00	0	0
22501	I Nolan	Sheffield Wed	1.50	-1	+3
22502	P Atherton	Sheffield Wed	1.50	-1	+6
22503	S Nicol	Sheffield Wed	1.00	0	-4
22504	D Stefanovic	Sheffield Wed	1.00	-1	+4
22505	L Briscoe	Sheffield Wed	0.50	0	0
22601	J Dodd	Southampton	1.50	0	-1
22602	F Benali	Southampton	0.75	0	-6
22603	S Charlton	Southampton	0.75	+2	+1
22701	D Kubicki	Sunderland	0.50	-1	+9
22702	M Scott	Sunderland	0.50	-3	+13
22703	G Hall	Sunderland	0.25	-1	+2
22801	D Austin	Tottenham	2.00	0	0
22802	C Wilson	Tottenham	2.00	-1	+9
22803	J Edinburgh	Tottenham	1.00	0	+8
22804	D Kerslake	Tottenham	0.50	0	0
22901	J Dicks	West Ham	4.00	-1	+3
22902	T Breacker	West Ham	1.00	-1	-1
22903	K Rowland	West Ham	1.00	0	-1
22904	M Bowen	West Ham	1.00	-1	+5
22905	K Brown	West Ham	0.50	0	0
23001	B Thatcher	Wimbledon	1.50	0	+7
23002	A Kimble	Wimbledon	0.75	+3	+3
23003	K Cunningham	Wimbledon	0.75	+3	+11
23004	D Jupp	Wimbledon	0.75	0	0
23006	C Perry	Wimbledon	0.25	+4	+13

Code	Name	Team	£m	Pts Wk	Pts Ov
30304	C Tiler	Aston Villa	1.00	0	0
30305	R Scimeca	Aston Villa	1.00	0	0
30401	C Hendry	Blackburn	4.00	+4	-1
30402	I Pearce	Blackburn	2.50	0	0
30403	C Coleman	Blackburn	2.50	+4	-3
30404	N Marker	Blackburn	0.50	+4	+4
30501	T Boyd	Celtic	3.00	-2	+2
30502	M MacKay	Celtic	1.50	0	+3
30503	A Stubbs	Celtic	3.50	-1	0
30601	M Duberry	Chelsea	2.50	-1	-5
30602	F Leboeuf	Chelsea	2.50	-1	+21
30603	F Sinclair	Chelsea	2.00	0	0
30604	D Lee	Chelsea	2.00	0	0
30605	A Myers	Chelsea	1.50	0	+7
30606	E Johnsen	Chelsea	1.50	0	+13
30607	J Kjeldbjerg	Chelsea	0.50	0	0
30701	L Daish	Coventry City	2.00	+4	-3
30702	R Shaw	Coventry City	1.50	0	-5
30703	D Busst	Coventry City	1.00	0	0
30801	I Stimac	Derby County	2.50	-2	+1
30802	D Wassall	Derby County	1.00	0	0
30803	J Laursen	Derby County	1.00	-1	+5
30804	M Carbon	Derby County	0.50	-1	0
30901	S Pressley	Dundee United	1.00	+4	+1
31001	M Millar	Dunfermline	0.75	+3	+2
31002	I den Bieman	Dunfermline	0.75	0	-3
31101	D Unsworth	Everton	2.50	+2	+7
31102	D Watson	Everton	2.50	0	+1
31103	C Short	Everton	2.00	+4	+6
31201	D McPherson	Hearts	1.00	0	-2
31202	P Ritchie	Hearts	1.00	0	+1
31301	J McLaughlin	Hibernian	0.50	0	-4
30902	B Welsh	Hibernian	0.75	-3	+9
31302	G Hunter	Hibernian	0.50	0	+5
31401	M Reilly	Kilmarnock	1.00	0	-3
31402	R Montgomerie	Kilmarnock	0.75	0	-3
31501	D Wetherall	Leeds United	2.50	-1	-1
31502	R Jobson	Leeds United	1.00	0	0
31503	L Radebe	Leeds United	1.00	0	-5
31504	J Pemberton	Leeds United	0.50	0	0
31601	S Walsh	Leicester City	1.00	+4	+5
31602	J Watts	Leicester City	1.00	+4	+9
31603	P Kamaark	Leicester City	0.50	0	0
31604	S Prior	Leicester City	1.00	+4	+4
31701	P Babb	Liverpool	3.50	0	+15
31702	J Scales	Liverpool	3.50	0	0
31703	M Wright	Liverpool	3.50	0	+11
31704	N Ruddock	Liverpool	3.00	0	0
31705	D Matteo	Liverpool	1.00	0	+12
31801	G Pallister	Manchester Utd	3.50	+3	+9
31802	D May	Manchester Utd	3.00	+4	+10
31803	R Johnsen	Manchester Utd	2.50	0	+8
31901	N Pearson	Middlesbrough	1.50	0	-6
31902	S Vickers	Middlesbrough	1.50	-2	-2
31903	D Whyte	Middlesbrough	1.50	-3	-5
31904	P Whelan	Middlesbrough	0.75	-3	-1
32001	B Martin	Motherwell	1.50	+4	+7
32002	M van der Gaag	Motherwell	0.75	+4	+11
32101	P Albert	Newcastle	4.50	0	0
32102	S Howey	Newcastle	3.00	0	+6
32103	D Peacock	Newcastle	3.00	0	+4
32201	C Cooper	Nottm Forest	3.00	0	-1
32202	S Chettle	Nottm Forest	2.50	0	0
32302	S Dennis	Raith	1.00	-2	-12
32401	R Gough	Rangers	3.50	+6	+20
32402	A McLaren	Rangers	3.00	0	0
32403	J Bjorklund	Rangers	3.50	+4	+12
32404	G Petric	Rangers	2.50	+4	+4
32501	J Newsome	Sheffield Wed	2.00	0	0
32502	D Walker	Sheffield Wed	1.50	-2	+1
32503	B Linighan	Sheffield Wed	0.25	0	0
32601	K Monkou	Southampton	1.50	-3	-4
32602	A Nelson	Southampton	1.00	-2	-3
32603	R Dryden	Southampton	0.50	0	0
32604	C Lundekvam	Southampton	0.50	+1	+1
32701	A Melville	Sunderland	1.00	-1	+13
32702	K Ball	Sunderland	1.00	-1	+12
32703	R Ord	Sunderland	0.50	0	+14
32801	S Campbell	Tottenham	2.50	-1	+9
32802	C Calderwood	Tottenham	2.50	-1	+6
32803	G Mabbutt	Tottenham	2.00	0	0
32804	J Cundy	Tottenham	0.50	0	0
32805	K Scott	Tottenham	0.50	0	0
32806	S Nethercott	Tottenham	0.50	0	-3
32901	S Bilic	West Ham	2.50	+1	+2
32902	M Rieper	West Ham	2.50	-1	-1
32903	S Potts	West Ham	2.00	0	-2
32904	R Hall	West Ham	1.50	0	0
32905	R Ferdinand	West Ham	0.50	0	0
32906	A Whitbread	West Ham	0.25	0	0
33001	A Reeves	Wimbledon	1.00	0	0
33003	A Pearce	Wimbledon	0.75	0	0
33004	D Blackwell	Wimbledon	0.50	0	0
33005	B McAllister	Wimbledon	0.50	+4	+13
33006	S Fitzgerald	Wimbledon	0.25	0	0

Code	Name	Team	£m	Pts Wk	Pts Ov
40504	P Grant	Celtic	1.50	+1	+6
40505	P Di Canio	Celtic	3.00	0	+9
40601	R Gullit	Chelsea	3.50	0	0
40602	D Wise	Chelsea	3.00	+1	+10
40603	G Peacock	Chelsea	2.50	0	0
40604	C Burley	Chelsea	2.00	+1	+10
40605	E Newton	Chelsea	2.00	0	0
40607	D Rocastle	Chelsea	0.50	0	0
40608	R Di Matteo	Chelsea	3.00	+1	+12
40701	J Salako	Coventry City	2.50	+2	+11
41501	G McAllister	Coventry City	5.50	+2	+10
40702	E Jess	Coventry City	2.00	0	+4
40703	K Richardson	Coventry City	1.50	+2	+5
40704	P Telfer	Coventry City	1.50	+2	+6
40705	P Williams	Coventry City	1.50	0	+2
40706	M Isaias	Coventry City	0.50	0	0
40707	W Boland	Coventry City	0.25	0	0
40708	M O'Neill	Coventry City	1.50	0	+1
40801	A Asanovic	Derby County	2.00	+1	+10
40802	P Simpson	Derby County	1.50	0	+2
40803	R van der Laan	Derby County	1.50	0	+2
40804	D Powell	Derby County	1.00	+1	+6
40805	S Flynn	Derby County	0.75	0	+3
40807	G Rowett	Derby County	0.50	-1	+7
40809	C Dailly	Derby County	1.50	+1	+10
40901	G McSwegan	Dundee United	2.00	+4	+12
40902	R Winters	Dundee United	1.50	+1	+3
40903	G Johnson	Dundee United	1.00	0	0
40904	D Bowman	Dundee United	0.75	+2	+2
40905	A Benneker	Dundee United	0.50	0	+2
41001	H French	Dunfermline	1.00	+3	+8
41002	C Robertson	Dunfermline	1.00	+1	+6
41003	A Smith	Dunfermline	0.75	+1	+9
41004	D Fleming	Dunfermline	0.50	+1	+8
41101	A Kanchelskis	Everton	7.00	+4	+13
41102	G Speed	Everton	4.00	+2	+11
41103	J Ebbrell	Everton	1.50	+2	+6
41104	J Parkinson	Everton	1.50	+2	+10
41105	A Limpar	Everton	1.50	0	+1
41106	A Grant	Everton	0.50	0	+3
41107	V Samways	Everton	0.50	0	0
41202	A McManus	Hearts	1.50	0	+2
41203	S Fulton	Hearts	1.00	0	+2
41301	K McAllister	Hibernian	1.50	0	+7
41302	P McGinlay	Hibernian	1.50	+1	+3
41303	G Love	Hibernian	0.75	0	0
41304	A Millen	Hibernian	0.50	+1	+10
41305	I Cameron	Hibernian	0.75	0	+1
41401	A Mitchell	Kilmarnock	1.00	+1	+5
41402	J McIntyre	Kilmarnock	1.00	+1	+4
41403	M Skilling	Kilmarnock	0.75	0	0
41404	J Lauchlan	Kilmarnock	0.50	0	+2
41502	L Bowyer	Leeds United	3.00	0	+9
41503	A Gray	Leeds United	2.50	0	+1
41504	C Palmer	Leeds United	2.00	0	+4
41505	R Wallace	Leeds United	1.50	+1	+4
41805	L Sharpe	Leeds United	3.50	+1	+11
41506	I Harte	Leeds United	1.00	+1	+13
41507	M Ford	Leeds United	0.50	+1	+6
41508	A Couzens	Leeds United	0.50	+1	+6
41509	M Tinkler	Leeds United	0.50	0	+2
41801	N Lennon	Leicester City	2.00	+2	+8
41602	G Parker	Leicester City	2.00	0	+1
41603	S Taylor	Leicester City	2.00	+2	+9
41604	J Lawrence	Leicester City	0.25	0	0
40606	M Izzet	Leicester City	1.00	+2	+9
41701	S McManaman	Liverpool	7.00	+1	+17
41702	J McAteer	Liverpool	4.00	0	+9
41703	J Redknapp	Liverpool	4.00	+1	+1
41704	J Barnes	Liverpool	3.00	+1	+16
41705	M Thomas	Liverpool	2.50	+3	+15
41706	M Kennedy	Liverpool	1.00	0	0
41707	P Berger	Liverpool	3.00	+1	+12
41801	R Giggs	Manchester Utd	7.00	+1	+10
41802	R Keane	Manchester Utd	4.50	0	+3
41803	D Beckham	Manchester Utd	4.00	+1	+13
41804	N Butt	Manchester Utd	3.50	+2	+6
41806	B McClair	Manchester Utd	1.50	0	+2
41807	T Cooke	Manchester Utd	1.00	0	0
41808	B Thornley	Manchester Utd	1.00	0	0
41809	S Davies	Manchester Utd	0.50	0	0
41810	J Cruyff	Manchester Utd	2.50	+1	+13
41811	K Poborsky	Manchester Utd	4.00	+1	+7
41901	Emerson	Middlesbrough	3.50	+1	+8
41902	Juninho	Middlesbrough	3.50	0	+15
41903	C Hignett	Middlesbrough	2.00	0	0
41905	A Moore	Middlesbrough	1.00	0	0
41906	R M

NEWS

Libel battle abandoned by MP

■ The Conservative MP Neil Hamilton abandoned his "cash for questions" libel action against *The Guardian* at the last minute after his lawyers refused to continue acting for him.

Both he and his co-plaintiff Ian Greer engaged new lawyers, but after 48 hours of intensive negotiation, they decided to drop the case. They also agreed to contribute to *The Guardian's* costs in what the newspaper's editor, Alan Rusbridger, described as "one of the most astonishing legal cave-ins in the history of the law of libel" ..... **Page 1**

Brown hopes for 10p tax band

■ Labour intends to introduce a 10p or 15p bottom rate of income tax as soon as possible, Gordon Brown said. The first cut in the present 20p low rate would be a priority in his maiden Budget, providing the money is there ..... **Pages 1, 6, 7**

Cambridge in the red

More than half of Britain's universities, including Cambridge, will be in the red by 2000, vice-chancellors were told. The number of higher education institutions running at a loss has doubled in a year from 26 to 48 and may rise to 70 ..... **Page 1**

Mubarak says no

President Hosni Mubarak of Egypt refused to attend the emergency Middle East summit opening in Washington despite the entreaties of President Clinton and Yassir Arafat ..... **Pages 1, 12**

Ceasefire blow

The loyalist ceasefire was dealt a near fatal blow when prisoners from the Ulster Defence Association withdrew support from the peace process ..... **Page 2**

£1.2m charity case

A financial consultant was accused of plundering £1.2 million from naive officials at the Salvation Army to pay off his debts of £400,000 and buy himself a house and car ..... **Page 3**

I say, Jeeves

P.G. Wodehouse is portrayed as a vain fool rather than a traitor in files released by the Public Record Office ..... **Page 4**

Fertilisation row

A woman who wants to have a baby using her dead husband's sperm appealed to be able to carry out his wishes ..... **Page 5**

Well digested

There has never been a more exciting time to dine out, according to the new edition of *The Good Food Guide*. After four and a half decades of complaints the book is full of praise ..... **Page 5**

Paracetamol dispute

Paracetamol, Britain's most popular painkiller, should be banned, the Government's newly-appointed chief medical officer in Scotland said ..... **Page 8**

Green light for sex

A new contraceptive device launched today will give women the green light when they can have sex without the risk of pregnancy ..... **Page 8**

Bolger accused

Jim Bolger, the New Zealand Prime Minister, was accused of "political treason" and "sabotage" by the opposition ..... **Page 10**

Tasmania anger

Anger and grief erupted in Tasmania's Supreme Court as Martin Bryant, the man accused of the island's Port Arthur massacre in April in which 35 people died, pleaded not guilty to 72 charges ..... **Page 10**

Victorious army

The Taleban students' army moved north with its mass of tanks and artillery, capturing new provinces in a relentless drive through the deserts of Afghanistan ..... **Page 13**

Duchess considers action over tapes

■ The Duchess of York is considering legal action over tape recordings of conversations between herself and a self-styled clairvoyant in which she allegedly discusses her lovers, her money problems and her hope that the Royal Family will drop dead. The recordings were made available on a premium rate phone line by the *Daily Mirror* ..... **Page 3**

DAVID DYSON



Replicas of exhibits in the British Museum have gone on sale at a shop in Terminal 4 of London's Heathrow Airport

BUSINESS

Eurotunnel: Shares in the channel tunnel operator, were suspended. The company is in talks with its bankers over the restructuring of its huge debts ..... **Page 27**

House prices: The Nationwide Building Society says prices are rising at 6.7 per cent a year, the largest annual increase since 1989 ..... **Page 27**

William Hill: Grand Metropolitan is to pay Brent Walker, the heavily-indebted drinks and betting group, £36 million in settlement of a dispute over the sale of William Hill to Walker in 1989 ..... **Page 27**

Markets: The FT-SE 100 rose 7.0 to 3953.4. Sterling's index rose from 86.9 to 87.0 after a rise from $1.5633 to $1.5640 and from DM2.3833 to DM2.3854 ..... **Page 30**

SPORT

Football: Premiership referees and managers are to hold a seminar at the weekend to talk over the plethora of yellow cards and other problems this season ..... **Page 48**

Sailing: A yacht in the BT Global Challenge came within a whisker of being disqualified after receiving illegal weather routing information on its way down the Needles Channel ..... **Page 52**

Golf: A course-record 64 by Trish Johnson set up her first tournament victory on the US circuit for three years in the Fieldcrest Cannon Classic ..... **Page 49**

Racing: Frankie Dettori is set to ride his 100th winner of the season at Newmarket after donning the royal silks and moving to 99 with Sabina at Bath ..... **Page 52**

ARTS

Fine art: The lonely, the wounded and the bewildered are caught in a new show by the artist Sam Taylor-Wood at the Chisenhale Gallery, while Jordan Baseman is showcased in Young British Artists at the Saatchi Gallery ..... **Page 36**

Screen stars: Gene Wilder is making his West End debut in *Laughter on the 23rd Floor*; in New York Al Pacino is making waves in Eugene O'Neill's *Hughie* ..... **Page 37**

Birthday present: At the Festival Hall, Colin Matthews's *Renewal* is premiered to mark the 50th anniversary of Radio 3 ..... **Page 37**

Kicking off in style: The Dance Umbrella festival is launched with *Genesis Canyon*, a one-off project performed in the Natural History Museum ..... **Page 38**

FEATURES

Demanding role: Moya Doherty now explains why she needed to dismiss *Riverdance's* biggest star, Michael Flatley ..... **Page 15**

FOOD AND WINE

Leaving it all behind: Bel Mooney's feelings at 50 ..... **Page 14**

LAW

Bringing up baby: Chris Barton looks at cases that challenge assumptions about parents ..... **Page 39**

Sand in my briefs: A young lawyer answers a *Times* ad for legal work on a tropical island ..... **Page 39**

Breaking in: Continental notaries have carved out a legal niche, but becoming a scrivener here is not easy ..... **Page 41**

TOMORROW

IN THE TIMES

■ **DANCE**
Debra Craine reviews the world premiere of Lindsay Kemp's dance extravaganza, *Variété*

■ **INTERFACE**
Seven 17in Wyse monitors worth £275 each are on offer in a new competition



FOCUS

Starting up: Franchising can provide you with a safe business, if you stick to the rules ..... **Pages 21-23**

THE PAPERS

Would a change of Prime Minister suddenly change the political climate? Nobody really believes it. First of all because Jacques Chirac does not want to hear it spoken of; secondly because the eventual successor has no face. If no serious social mishap intervenes, the Prime Minister must therefore carry his burden until the spring of 1998

— Le Figaro

TV LISTINGS

Preview: The victims of the Gulag were not all Russian. *Timewatch: Stalin's Foreign Slaves* (BBC2, 9pm). **Review:** Lynne Truss writes about a wolf in librarian's clothing ..... **Page 51**

OPINION

Brown's way

If Tony Blair and Mr Brown have managed to wean their party off the levelling-down form of egalitarianism that used to be its trademark, then that is some achievement ..... **Page 17**

Afghanistan's agony

Afghanistan's 20-year agony is not yet over; but its theocracy has no need now of the world's arms, advice or politics ..... **Page 17**

Unworldly flea

Wodehouse was no traitor. This is official — as if anybody still supposed that he was ..... **Page 17**

COLUMNS

PETER STOTHARD

In the pretend politics of dinner-party talk and shopping-mall interviews it is not chic to profess support for John Major; in real elections, it does not matter what is chic. In pretend politics, the battle between hope and fear is won by hope; real elections give fear a chance ..... **Page 16**

LIBBY PURVES

How long will it be before it becomes acceptable for schools to admit to routinely chucking out those who are just a bit dim, or whose parents' divorce has upset them in the lower sixth, or who suffer a bout of glandular fever or a ghastly love affair? ..... **Page 16**

PETER RIDDELL

Gordon Brown already behaves as if he is Chancellor, while Kenneth Clarke increasingly talks like a Shadow Chancellor ..... **Page 6**

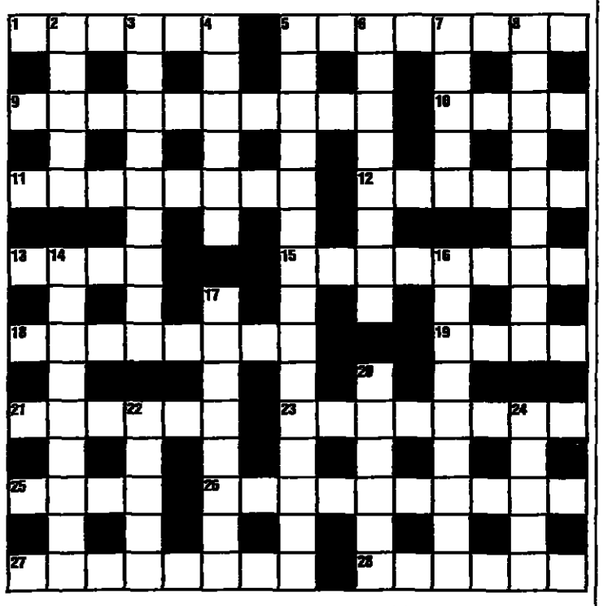
OBITUARIES

Shusako Endo, Japanese novelist; **Rear-Admiral Ian McLaughlin**, Admiral Commanding Reserves; **William Clifford**, solicitor to the DHSS ..... **Page 19**

LETTERS

Introduction of "green" tax on household waste; law on stalking; a new home for the Turner bequest; Clarke's "gaffe"; childbirth and the law; Lady Lavery and Michael Collins ..... **Page 17**

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 20,287



ACROSS

1 Account presented by pubs for wine (6).
5 In Irish county see Scottish cow (8).
9 Con the Vicar of Bray, for example? (4-6).
10 Street provides odd characters, that is, even in this location (4).
11 Adapt again to study? Precisely (8).
12 Singular issue brought up by a queen (6).
13 Reportedly breed a flightless bird (4).
15 Deplore former City levy (8).
18 Standards achieved by review I presented in time (8).
19 Ketch possibly displaying flag (4).
21 Is able to run back after cold drink(6).
23 Fit for selection for match (8).
25 Take risks? They are usually spotted (4).
26 Honest canon provided with living (3-7).
27 Attempt to frame a trial piece of needlework (8).
28 Elder, perhaps, holding posh new vessel (6).

DOWN

2 A Liberal president without distinction (5).
3 Firm set out publicity in haste (9).
4 Sound European money order (6).
5 Disclose secret intention to hand over bag? (4,3,4,4).
6 Parrot's strange role, involved with kite (8).
7 Ready to start playing in attack (5).
8 Relative in charge holds article to be genuine (9).
14 Instrument originally helping doctor employed in plant (9).
16 Reply saying what conjurer did with lady sawn in half? (9).
17 Couple permitted to form band (8).
20 Bird accepted bait – a tasty morsel (6).
22 Relative peace finally discovered in agreeable surroundings (5).
24 Fellow commonly associated with 19 in army (5).

Solution to Puzzle No 20.286

A	L	P	E	N	H	O	R	N		T	O	P	I	C
R	I	U	L		O	U	R			R				
R	E	L	A	T	E	D		T	O	T	T	E	R	Y
O		O	S		T	I		O	V		P			
W	I	T	C	H		I	N	F	O	R	M	A	N	T
H			E		M		Y		S		L			
E	N	R	O	L	L	E	D				G	E	R	M
A		E		L		R		B		P		N		E
D	I	S	H			D	E	S	E	R	T	E	R	
		T		R		A		A		N		C		
B	A	R	T	E	N	D	E	R		T	R	A	G	E
R		A		M		H		A		A		N		N
A	G	I	T	A	T	E		B	E	G	O	N	I	A
S		N		I		R		L		O		A		R
S	A	T	I	N		E	T	E	R	N	A	L	L	Y

Times Two Crossword page 52

TIMES WEATHERCALL

For the latest region by region forecast, 24 hours a day, dial 0891 500 followed by the appropriate code:

Greater London	701
Kent,Surrey,Sussex	702
Dorset,Hants & IOW	703
Devon & Cornwall	704
Wilts,Glouces,Avon,Somrs	705
Berks,Bucks,Oxon	706
Beds,Herts & Essex	707
Norfolk,Suffolk,Cambs	709
West Mid & Sth Glam & Gwent	709
Shrops,Herefds & Worcs	710
Central Midlands	711
East Midlands	712
Lincs & Humberside	713
Dyfed & Powys	714
Gwynedd & Clwyd	715
N W England	716
W & S Yorks & Dales	717
N E England	718
Cumbria & Lake District	719
S W Scotland	720
W Central Scotland	721
Edin S Fife/Lothian & Borders	722
E Central Scotland	723
Grampian & E Highlands	724
N W Scotland	725
Caithness,Orkney & Shetland	726
N Ireland	727

Weathercall is charged at 39p per minute (cheap rate) and 49p per minute at all other times

AA ROADWATCH

For the latest AA traffic/roadworks information, 24 hours a day, dial 0336 401 followed by the appropriate code:

London & SE traffic, roadworks	
Area within M25	731
Essex/Herts/Beds/Bucks/Berks/Oxon	732
Kent/Surrey/Sussex/Hants	734
M25 London Orbital only	736
National traffic and roadworks	
National motorways	737
West Country	738
Wales	739
Midlands	740
East Anglia	741
North-west England	742
North-east England	743
Scotland	744
Northern Ireland	745

AA Roadwatch is charged at 39p per minute (cheap rate) and 49p per minute at all other times

HIGHEST & LOWEST

Yesterday: Highest day temp: Southend, Essex, 18C (64F); lowest day max: Sella Ness, Shetland Islands, 11C (52F); highest rainfall: Jersey, Channel Islands, 0.61in; highest sunshine: Leuchars, Fife, 6.7hr

11 WAYS TO GET TAX FREE CASH
That's the number of cash benefits you get with WPA's Health & Sickness Plan. Covers your everyday healthcare needs for around a pound a week.
WPA
Western Provident Association
FREECALL 0500 43 93 23

FORECAST

☐ **General:** Western England and Wales will have showers for much of the time. Central and eastern parts should have a mostly dry morning, but with showers developing by early afternoon. Later it may become more cloudy in the North West with some more persistent rain.

Northwestern Scotland will start cloudy with some rain, whilst central and eastern Scotland will be dry and bright. Showers will develop through the morning with the organised band in the North West sinking southeast. Northern Ireland should have sunny spells and showers.

☐ **London, SE England, E Anglia, Central S England, E England, Midlands, Central N, NE England:** dry and bright at first, showers developing later but dying away by evening. Wind west to northwest moderate locally fresh. Max 17C (63F).

☐ **Channel Isles, SW England, Wales, NW England, Lake District, Isle of Man:** sunny spells and showers. Wind west to northwest moderate locally fresh. Max 16C (61F).

☐ **Borders, Edinburgh & Dundee, Aberdeen, Glasgow, Central Highlands, Moray Firth:** dry and bright at first but showers developing through the morning. Wind mostly moderate northwest becoming west to southwest for a time. Max 15C (59F).

☐ **SW Scotland, Argyll, N Ireland:** sunny spells and showers, some perhaps heavy and becoming organised into a persistent band later. Wind west to northwest mainly moderate. Max 15C (59F).

☐ **NE Scotland, NW Scotland, Orkney, Shetland:** mostly cloudy with showery rain, heavy and persistent at times. Wind northwesterly moderate to fresh becoming westerly and moderating for a time later. Max 13C (55F).

☐ **Outlook:** sunny spells and showers, giving way to cloud and rain later.

AROUND BRITAIN YESTERDAY

24 hrs to 5 pm: b=bright; c=cloud; d=drizzle; ds=dust storm; du=dull; f=fair; fg=fog; g=gale; h=hail; r=rain; sh=shower; sl=sleet; sn=snow; s=sun; t=thunder

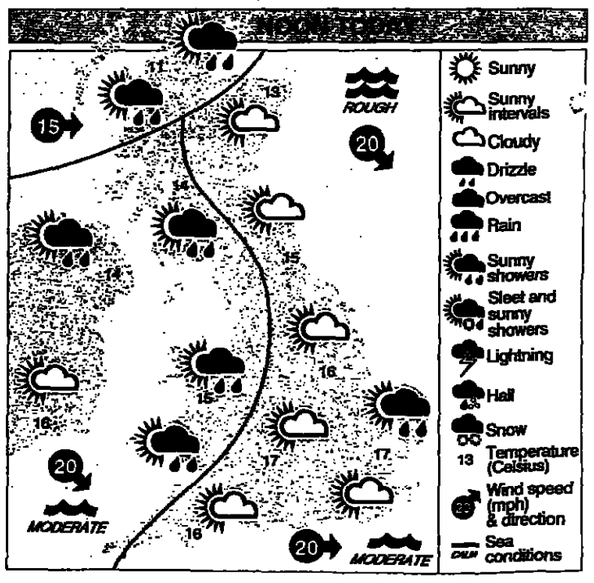
	Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F			Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
Aberdeen	8.0	-	16	61	s	Leuchars	8.7	0.01	16	61	s
Anglesey	3.5	-	16	61	b	Littlehmptn	-	0.28	16	61	r
Aspatria	5.4	0.03	14	57	sh	London	-	0.30	15	59	r
Aviemore	X					Lowestoft	0.1	0.02	15	58	r
Belfast	6.1	0.09	14	57	sh	Manchester	1.3	0.01	15	59	b
Birmingham	-	0.06	14	57	c	Margate	1.8	0.14	16	61	r
Bognor R	-	0.28	15	59	r	Minehead	-	0.01	14	57	c
Bolmem'th	-	0.44	15	59	r	Morecambe	1.8	0.01	14	57	c
Bristol	-	0.02	14	57	du	Newquay	-	0.06	14	57	c
Buxton	0.7	0.06	13	55	c	Norwich	0.2	X	14	57	c
Cardiff	-	0.01	14	57	c	Oxford	0.1	0.17	14	57	r
Clacton	0.5	0.17	14	57	r	Penzance	X	0.11	14	57	r
Cleethorpes	X					Poole	-	0.41	15	59	r
Colwyn Bay	1.0	0.01	15	59	c	Prestatyn	X	-	14	57	c
Cromer	2.0	0.14	15	59	b	Ross-o-wye	-	-	14	57	c
Dunbar	6.8	0.01	15	59	sh	Ryde	-	X	16	61	r
Eastbourne	0.1	0.29	16	61	r	Salcombe	-	0.15	14	57	du
Edinburgh	X					Sandown	-	0.30	17	63	r
Eskdalemuir	5.3	0.04	12	54	b	Saunton Snd	-	0.01	15	59	c
Exmouth	-	0.09	13	55	r	Scarboro'	-	0.01	14	57	c
Falmouth	0.1	0.10	14	57	c	Shanklin	-	X	X	X	r
Fishguard	0.5	0.01	14	57	sh	Shrewsbury	-	0.01	15	58	b
Folkestone	1.2	0.23	16	61	r	Skegness	-	-	16	61	c
Glasgow	5.9	0.33	14	57	s	Southend	-	0.18	18	64	du
Guernsey	-	0.39	X	X	r	Southsea	-	0.34	15	59	r
Hastings	-	0.17	16	61	r	Stornoway	8.4	0.20	14	57	sh
Hayling I.	-	0.22	16	61	r	Swanage	-	0.48	15	59	r
Herne Bay	0.5	0.11	16	61	r	Teignmouth	0.1	0.11	14	57	r
Howe	-	0.04	16	61	r	Tenby	0.1	0.03	15	59	sh
Hunstanton	2.3	0.04	15	59	b	Tiree	5.7	0.31	14	57	sh
Jersey	0.1	0.61	16	61	r	Torquay	-	0.17	15	59	sh
Kinloss	7.6	0.08	15	59	s	Ventnor	-	0.38	15	59	r
Leeds	1.4	0.02	15	59	sh	West-s-mare	-	0.21	15	59	du
Lerwick	4.1	0.23	12	54	sh	Weymouth	-	0.39	15	59	r

ABROAD

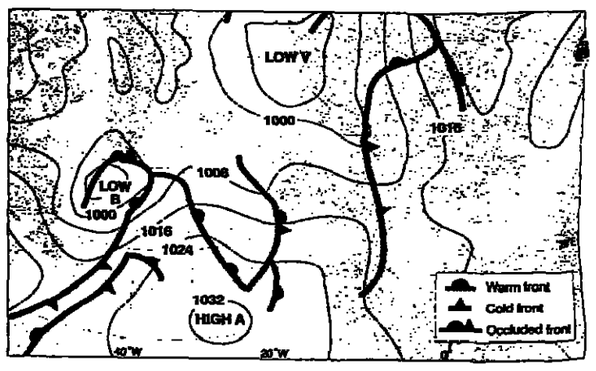
Ajaccio	22	72	s	Corfu	23	73	s	Majorca	24	75	f	Rome	24	75	s
Akrotiri	25	77	s	C'phagn	12	54	c	Malaga	25	77	s	S Fr'isco	15	59	f
Alex'dria	27	81	c	Dublin	16	61	f	Malta	23	73	f	S Paulo	26	78	c
Algiers	25	77	s	Dubrovnik	21	70	s	Melb'rne	18	65	f	Salzburg	17	63	f
Amst'dm	15	59	r	Faro	28	82	s	Mexico C	18	61	f	Santiago	28	79	s
Athens	23	73	f	Florence	22	72	s	Miami	32	90	s	Seoul	28	79	s
B Aires	21	70	f	Frankfurt	14	57	f	Milan	21	70	s	Sing'por	X		
Bahrain	35	95	s	Funchal	X			Montreal	18	64	s	St'kholm	12	54	c
Bangkok	X			Geneva	17	63	s	Moscow	3	37	s	Strasb'rg	17	63	f
Barbados	29	84	f	Gibraltar	22	72	s	Munich	15	59	c	Sydney	21	70	s
Barcelona	24	75	f	Helsinki	6	46	c	N Delhi	34	93	s	Tangier	28	82	s
Beirut	28	82	s	Hong K	30	86	s	N York	18	64	f	Tel Aviv	30	86	s
Belgrade	17	63	f	Innsbruck	15	59	c	Nairobi	23	73	f	Tenerife	25	79	c
Berlin	14	57	c	Istanbul	17	63	f	Naples	23	73	f	Tokyo	23	73	f
Bermuda	27	81	s	Jeddah	36	97	s	Nice	22	72	s	Toronto	17	63	f
Biarritz	X			Jo'burg	25	77	s	Oslo	11	52	r	Tunis	24	75	f
Borde'x	23	73	s	L Angels	21	70	s	Paris	19	66	f	Valencia	25	77	s
Brussels	16	61	c	L Palmas	25	77	f	Peking	24	75	f	Vanc'ver	12	54	c
Budapst	18	64	s	Le Touet	17	63	f	Perth	16	61	f	Venice	21	70	f
Cairo	32	90	s	Lisbon	27	81	s	Prague	13	55	f	Vienna	17	63	s
Cape Tn	16	61	f	Locarno	19	66	s	Reykjavik	8	46	c	Warsaw	11	52	c
Ch'church	12	54	X	Luxembg	15	59	f	Rhodes	23	73	s	Wash'ton	19	66	f
Chicago	18	64	r	Luxor	39	102	s	Rio de J	25	77	f	Wel'ngton	13	55	X
Cologne	15	59	c	Madrid	28	82	s	Riyadh	37	98	s	Zurich	15	59	f

Temperatures at midday local time: Sunday X = not available

NEWS IN BRIEF



Changes to chart below from noon: low B will drift slowly towards Iceland as it deepens. Low V will remain almost stationary as it fills. High A will decline in situ



HIGH TIDES

TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT	TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	4:09	7.4	4:22	7.3	Leith	4:59	5.8	5:23	5.4
Aberdeen	3:30	4.3	3:55	4.1	Liverpool	1:23	9.4	1:43	9.1
Avonmouth	9:36	13.1	9:54	12.7	Lowestoft	11:52	2.6	-	-
Belfast	1:29	3.8	1:51	3.5	Margate	2:28	4.8	2:35	4.8
Cardiff	9:31	11.9	9:51	11.5	Milford Haven	8:36	6.9	8:57	6.7
Devonport	8:13	5.4	8:26	5.2	Newquay	7:26	6.7	7:47	6.5
Dover	1:16	6.7	1:35	6.8	Oban	7:47	3.8	8:11	3.7
Dublin (N Wall)	1:37	4.1	2:07	3.9	Penzance	6:59	5.5	7:18	5.4
Falmouth	7:45	5.0	8:03	4.9	Portland	9:08	2.1	9:25	1.9
Greenock	2:51	3.7	3:04	3.7	Portsmouth	1:36	4.7	1:57	4.7
Harwich	2:02	4.0	2:14	4.1	Shoreham	1:35	5.3	1:54	5.2
Holyhead	0:25	5.7	12:46	5.4	Southampton	0:55	4.6	1:18	4.6
Hull (Albert D)	8:38	7.8	8:53	7.3	Swansea	8:44	9.4	9:03	9.2
Ilfracombe	8:25	9.2	8:45	9.0	Tees	5:57	5.4	6:22	5.2
King's Lynn	8:38	6.8	8:59	6.5	Walton-on-Naze	2:01	4.3	2:15	4.3

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THE MOON

Sun rises: 7.00 am
Sun sets: 6.40 pm
Moon sets 10.51 am
Moon rises 8.38 pm

London 6.40 pm to 7.02 am
Bristol 6.50 pm to 7.11 am
Edinburgh 7.50 pm to 7.16 am
Manchester 6.48 pm to 7.11 am
Penzance 7.02 pm to 7.22 am

Last quarter October 4

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THE TIMES 2

DIEU ET MON DROIT

BUSINESS EDITOR Lindsay Cook

TUESDAY OCTOBER 1 1996

INSIDE SECTION 2 TODAY



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Gene Wilder: a funny thing on his way to the theatre
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LAW
Two men and a baby: what is the legal aspect?
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SPORT
Isn't it time to come back to England, Jürgen Klinsmann?
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TELEVISION AND RADIO
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Eurotunnel saved from insolvency

BY JONATHAN PRYNN, TRANSPORT CORRESPONDENT

EUROTUNNEL has stepped back from the abyss of insolvency after a marathon weekend round of talks with its bankers that brought the company close to a refinancing deal.

Shares in the debt-laden Channel Tunnel operator were suspended yesterday on the London, Paris and Brussels stock markets "pending an announcement", although the company refused to make any further comment.

The weekend negotiations are believed to have removed several key stumbling blocks standing in the way of a refinancing, and made it possible for there to be an announcement on a deal before the end of next week.

City sources said that while outstanding issues remained to be settled, all the elements of a deal had been agreed in principle. "There is still a gap between the company and the banks but it is bridgeable," said one. The 46 biggest Eurotunnel lenders are expected to meet at the end of the week to consider the latest proposals.

The 112p suspension price values the company, which stopped paying interest on its debts last September, at around £1 billion, compared with its £9 billion of borrowings. The shares have rallied strongly since the spring, when they fell to a low of 62p.

The breakthrough came as two French court-appointed mediators who have been trying to broker an agreement between the company and its 225 lenders, began preparing their report for Jean-Pierre Mattei, the President of the commercial tribunal of Paris.

The President, who has the power to put Eurotunnel into receivership, sent in the mediators, Lord Wakeham and Robert Badinter, in February. Their mandate, which expired last night, had twice been extended to give them more time to find a deal to save the company.

The court is expected to reprimand the two sides for failing to reach an agreement by the September 30 deadline but is likely to stop short of measures that would trigger insolvency. "The only people that would gain from that would be the lawyers," said one City analyst.

City sources said the weekend negotiations centred on the terms of a complex refinancing package that would see up to £1.5 billion of debt swapped for equity, giving the banks up to 49 per cent of the company.

A further £2 billion of debt would be refinanced through a convertible bond that could ultimately give the banks two thirds or more of the equity. The negotiations are being led by the four agent banks — Banque Nationale de Paris (BNP), Credit Lyonnais, Midland, and National Westminster.

Most of the banks in the Eurotunnel syndicate are believed to have made provisions for up to two thirds of their exposure.

National Westminster made a £70 million provision in its accounts last year and the other UK clearers are also thought to have taken heavy balance sheet hits over Eurotunnel.

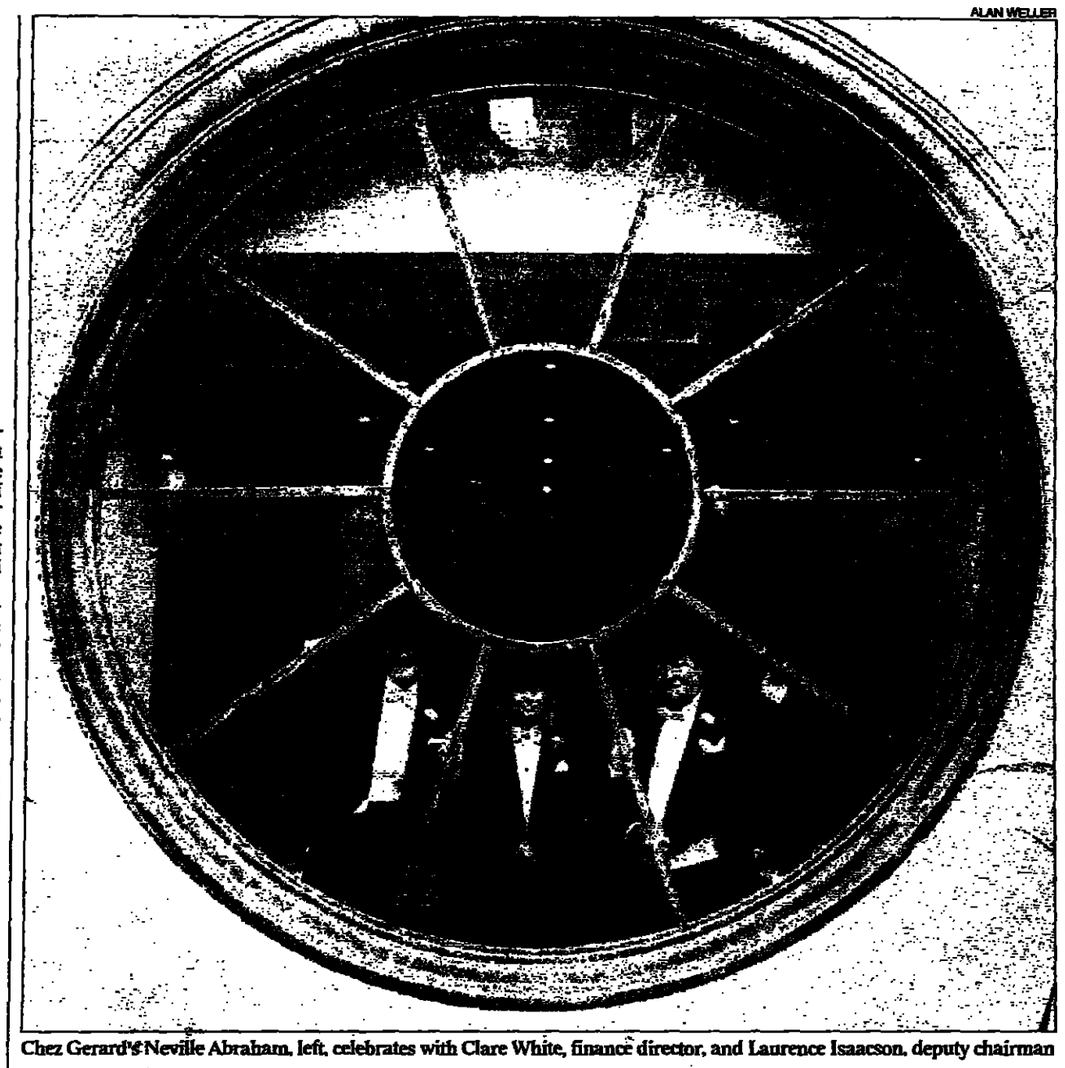
A tiny fraction of the borrowings has been sold and traded in the "distressed debt" market, where it changes hands at around 33p in the pound.

Eurotunnel's vastly improved trading performance over the summer has helped the bargaining hand of Sir Alastair Morton, the co-chairman of Eurotunnel, who stands down when the refinancing has been completed.

Sir Alastair announced last month that first-half losses had been cut, from £426 million to £371 million, and revenues more than doubled, to £224 million.

The company is expected to be further helped next year by a large rationalisation of the cross-Channel ferry operators aimed at halting the disastrous slide in ticket prices.

ALAN WELLER



Chez Gerard's Neville Abraham, left, celebrates with Clare White, finance director, and Laurence Isaacson, deputy chairman

BUSINESS TODAY

STOCK MARKET INDICES

FTSE 100	3953.7	(+7.3)
Yield	3.94%	
FTSE All share	1945.00	(+1.07)
Nikkei	21556.40	(+9.38)
New York:		
Dow Jones	5901.40	(+28.48)*
S&P Composite	689.35	(+3.16)*

US RATES

Federal Funds	5¼%*	(5¼%)
Long Bond	97[16/32]*	(98[16/32])
Yield	6.93%*	(6.91%)

LONDON MONEY

3-mth interbank	5¾%	(5¾%)
Life long gilt future (Dec)	108[16/32]	(108[14/32])

STERLING

New York:		
$	1.5858*	(1.5635)
London:		
$	1.5834	(1.5634)
DM	2.3846	(2.3834)
FFr	8.0891	(8.0554)
SFr	1.9598	(1.9638)
Yen	174.13	(173.28)
£ Index	87.0	(86.9)

DOLLAR

London:		
DM	1.5270*	(1.5241)
FFr	5.1655*	(5.1547)
SFr	1.2556*	(1.2560)
Yen	111.63*	(110.86)
$ Index	97.5	(97.4)

Tokyo close Yen 111.46

NORTH SEA OIL

Brent 15-day (Dec) $22.80 ($22.90)

GOLD

London close $378.60 ($381.15)

* denotes midday trading price

House prices up 7% in past year says Nationwide

BY ROBERT MILLER

NATIONAL house prices jumped nearly 7 per cent in the past year, according to the latest survey by Nationwide Building Society.

On a monthly basis, prices rose 1.4 per cent in September, compared with 1.7 per cent the previous month. The Halifax, Britain's largest mortgage lender, with more than two million borrowers, is expected to report that house prices are now 5 per cent higher than they were a year ago when the society publishes its own monthly index today.

Anecdotal evidence suggests that the rise in property prices, which was sustained during the generally quiet summer months, is by no means countrywide. Homeowners in certain areas of the UK have seen little movement, and well over 500,000 borrowers are still caught in the negative equity trap, with loans larger than the value of their properties.

Philip Williamson, corporate development director at Nationwide, said: "The apparent strength of house prices in recent months continues to reflect distortions caused by shortages of quality properties in certain sectors of the market, which are giving a short-term boost to prices while severely limiting sales."

He added: "More significantly, property transactions have been on an upward trend so far this year, with the most recent figure for August indicating activity is at least back to early 1995 levels. The strength of mortgage lending over the summer suggests this improvement will continue and should gain momentum as more existing owner-occupiers return to the market, alleviating localised supply constraints and resulting pressure on prices."

The average price of a house in September was £54,334 compared with £54,025 the previous month and £50,521 at the start of this year, according to Nationwide.

The exceptional rate of growth in house prices seen in recent months is unlikely to be sustained, however. Even Nationwide admits that while the future for the housing market looks more promising than for some time it would caution against overoptimism, saying "the current upturn has none of the characteristics usually associated with a damaging boom".

Adrian Coles, director-general of the Council of Mortgage Lenders, said recently that if the present housing market trends continued to the end of the year "net lending, the best measure of actual housing market activity, will still only be about as strong as in 1993 and weaker than in 1994, well after the housing market recession had started".

Chez Gerard serves up good news

A TENTH restaurant is on the menu at Groupe Chez Gerard, which yesterday unveiled a 23 per cent rise in full-year profits to £2.9 million (Alasdair Murray writes).

The restaurant company, which also owns Bertorelli's and Scotts in London, said it is aiming to open a new Chez Gerard branded restaurant early next year at Bishopsgate, in the City of London.

Neville Abraham, chairman and chief executive, said trading in the first quarter is running ahead of last year and he is positive about the prospects for the restaurant industry. Overall turnover rose 25 per cent to £16.4 million. The total dividend was lifted 17 per cent to 2.8p, with a 1.9p final due November 18.

Republic Industries and ADT scrap $5bn merger

BY ERIC REGULY

ADT, the electronic security and car auction group, and Republic Industries yesterday called off their $5 billion merger because of recent share price volatility.

The collapse of the deal was welcomed by Western Resources of Kansas, which owns 24.3 per cent of ADT and had been preparing to mount a campaign to prevent the merger from proceeding. Michel Philipp, a Western spokeswoman, said: "We believe that the transaction was not in our best interests because of the volatility in Republic stock."

Republic is a waste management company that is being transformed into a waste, security, automotive and media conglomerate by Wayne Huizenga, the founder of the Blockbuster video chain and WMX Technolgies, the leading waste company.

The merger of Republic and ADT would have created the world's largest provider of electronic security services.

Republic was to buy ADT in a share swap. But Republic shares have not stood still since the proposed merger was announced in early July. In mid-June, they peaked at more than $34 a share, then fell to less than $20 in August. Yesterday, bolstered by termination of the merger talks, they rose almost $2 to about $29. Michael Ashcroft, chairman and chief executive of ADT, said: "The delay in completing the transaction forced both companies to put business expansion plans on hold. Both companies will now be free to resume their individual business plans."

ADT did not give details of its business plans. Republic said it would proceed with several acquisitions in the waste and automotive sector. The company intends to hold its warrant to acquire 15 million ordinary ADT shares at an exercise price of $20 a share. The warrant is valid for six months.

GrandMet must pay £36m over Hill sale

BY ALASDAIR MURRAY

BRENT WALKER, the leisure company, claimed a partial victory yesterday in its bitter six-year legal battle with Grand Metropolitan when an independent adjudicator awarded it compensation of £117.5 million.

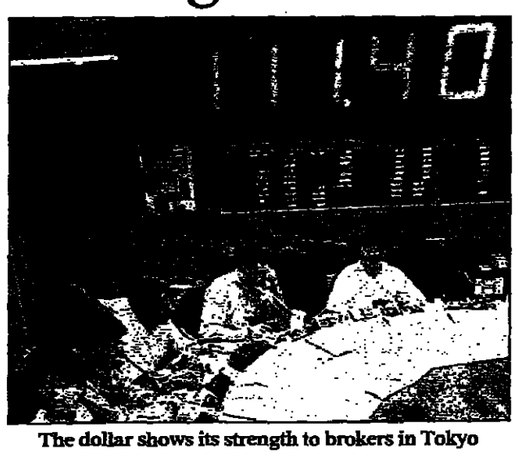
GrandMet will actually pay only £36 million because Brent Walker withheld £50 million of the total payment, which with interest has now increased in value to £82 million.

The dispute centred on Brent Walker's £685 million acquisition of William Hill, the betting company, from GrandMet in 1989. Brent Walker claimed that GrandMet had overstated profits at its subsidiary and demanded a reduction of up to £250 million in the asking price.

Arthur Andersen, the accountancy firm that acted as an independent adjucator, decided that GrandMet should pay back £117.5 million because the profits had been overstated. The adjudicator calculated that profits should have been stated at £45.8 million and not the £55 million employed at the time.

Brent Walker said yesterday it would continue to pursue some related claims for legal costs and interest on the award, backdated over six years, which were not covered by the decision. GrandMet has already taken a £20 million charge to cover the legal costs of the dispute.

Eager consumers keep up demand



The dollar shows its strength to brokers in Tokyo

BY JANET BUSH, ECONOMICS CORRESPONDENT

THE consumer sectors of the economy continue their robust growth, with demand for mortgage finance and other types of credit remaining strong in August.

The latest figures further convinced the City that another cut in base rates should be ruled out and helped sterling to another 1996 high against the mark.

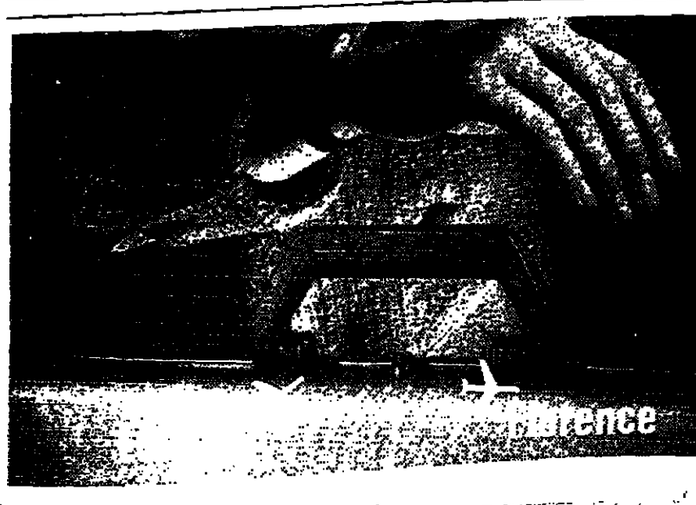
The pound jumped to DM2.3865 in early trading, surpassing the previous high for this year against the German currency of DM2.3840 hit on Friday. Sterling was also helped by a surge in the dollar to a two and-a-half year high against the yen.

Consumer credit jumped by £997 million, higher than economists had expected. Together with July's increase in credit of £1.05 billion — the second biggest on record — this confirmed that, if anything, consumer spending is accelerating. Compared with a year ago, consumer credit is now up by 15.5 per cent, the highest year-on-year gain since the first quarter of 1990.

Net mortgage loans rose by £1.7 billion in August after a £1.6 billion jump in July. Taking mortgages and other credit together, total personal borrowing rose by £2.7 billion and 0.6 per cent in the month. Michael Saunders, UK economist at Salomon Brothers, said that this is the biggest rise since 1991 and fits in with a picture of big gains in retail sales and house prices in August.

Separate figures published yesterday showed that M0 narrow money supply rose by 0.2 per cent in September, the lowest month-on-month gain since May. M0's annual rate fell to 7.0 per cent from 7.4 per cent.

Although this drop was exaggerated by a sharp fall in bankers' operational deposits, which are notoriously volatile, the latest figures suggest that retail spending may have cooled off a little in September.



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Troubled VHI seeks new chief

FROM EILEEN MCCABE IN DUBLIN

THE board of Voluntary Health Insurance (VHI), the Republic of Ireland's troubled private health insurance group, met last night to discuss the appointment of a new chief executive, the third such meeting in less than three years.

VHI, which was set up by the Government in 1957, has come under intense scrutiny recently as a result of a public boardroom squabble over the performance of Brian Duncan, who resigned as chief executive last week. Mr Duncan's predecessor, Tim Ryan, also vacated the post in acrimonious circumstances just over two years ago.

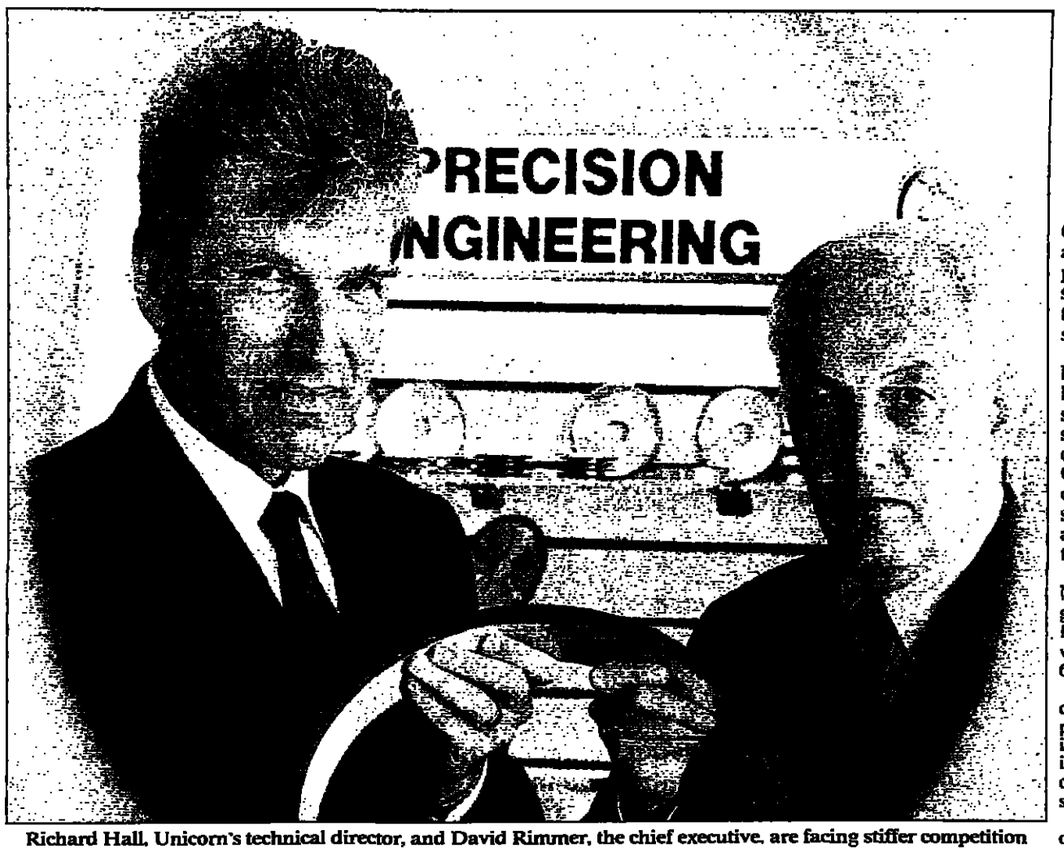
The latest row erupted after a report from a VHI board subcommittee criticised Mr Duncan's management style and called for his contract to be terminated. Mr Duncan left the group after agreeing what is believed to be a very generous settlement package.

The company, which provides private health cover for 1.3 million people in the Republic, has been heavily criticised in recent weeks for increasing its premiums ahead of the rate of inflation. It responded by blaming escalating health costs. However, the main challenge facing the new chief executive — expected to be in place within the next few weeks — is likely to be how to respond to the planned entry into the Irish market by Bupa, the British private health insurance group.

TOURIST RATES

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	2.06	1.90
Austria Sch	17.75	16.25
Belgium Fr	51.98	47.68
Canada $	2.235	2.075
Cyprus CypE	0.762	0.706
Denmark Kr	9.71	8.91
Finland Mkk	7.69	7.04
France Fr	8.45	7.80
Germany Dm	2.53	2.32
Greece Dr	391	365
Hong Kong $	12.71	11.71
Iceland	115	95
Ireland Pt	1.03	0.95
Israel Shk	5.40	4.75
Italy Lira	2487	2332
Japan Yen	187.90	171.90
Malta	0.605	0.550
Netherlds Gld	2.822	2.592
New Zealand $	2.36	2.16
Norway Kr	10.70	9.90
Portugal Esc	253.50	235.00
S Africa Rd	7.65	6.85
Spain Pta	206.50	193.50
Sweden Kr	10.97	10.17
Switzerland Fr	2.09	1.91
Turkey Lira	145000	137000
USA $	1.660	1.530

Rates for small denomination bank notes only as supplied by Barclays Bank PLC. Different rates apply to traveller's cheques. Rates as at close of trading yesterday.



Richard Hall, Unicorn's technical director, and David Rimmer, the chief executive, are facing stiffer competition

Unicorn flat at half time

BY FRASER NELSON

CONSOLIDATION in Britain's DIY sector held back profits at Unicorn, the abrasives manufacturer, which turned in flat results for the six months to June 30.

Rising raw material prices hit margins in its UK retail business, which the company said was further hampered by stiffening competition. Weak demand from France and Germany held back sales to continental Europe, which fell slightly to £17.6 million. Overall, turnover rose 2.7 per cent, to £53.2 million.

After strong results from North America and Sweden, group pre-tax profits were £3.55 million (£3.4 million), which took earnings from 6.8p to 7p per share.

Lindsay Bury, Unicorn's chairman, said that its European order book was tightening in some sectors, but said its operations in North America continued to perform strongly.

A maiden interim dividend of 2.05p is due on November 5.

Labour's plan for regulators puts utilities shares in the red

BY PHILIP BASSETT, INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

SHARES in utilities fell sharply yesterday after Labour said at its party conference in Blackpool that it would make protecting consumers' interests the top legal priority for industry regulators.

At present the utility regulators have to ensure that the utilities carry out and finance their job adequately, offering a reasonable rate of return on their capital.

The fundamental change in the regulators' role was announced for statutory regulators of the gas, water, electricity and telecommunications industries.

However, the utility regulators are likely to mount a sustained campaign against the reforms, arguing that the current regulatory regime remains the most appropriate means for controlling the utilities' prices and other policies.

Margaret Beckett, Labour's Shadow Trade and Industry Secretary, announced the change during Labour's economic debate. She said Labour wanted to take a "fresh look" at the methods of the regulators "to stop the customer from being ripped off", as well as to ensure proper investment in the utilities themselves. "A Labour government will change the law to ensure that the regulators of the utility industries have a primary duty to protect customers' interests, the interests of members of the public, along with their duties to promote competition and ensure financial viability."

What Labour plans to do would involve altering the legislation governing the regulators' operations. In the water industry, for example, the general duties of Ian Byatt, the director general of water services, are laid down in the Water Industry Act 1991, which makes clear that he has to ensure the water companies can carry out and finance water and sewerage functions.

In particular, on finance the act makes clear that the regulator should ensure that companies secure a "reasonable" rate of return on their capital. Only after these duties have been secured has the director a further duty to customers, described by the regulatory body Ofwat as "secondary" and which specifically does not outweigh the regulator's primary duties on provision of services and financing. Other regulatory bodies have similar operating regimes.

While Labour would maintain the regulators' duties on funding and services, party leaders plan to boost the status of the regulatory provision on customers' interests to a primary duty.

R-R wins $155m port deal

BY FRASER NELSON

ROLLS-ROYCE has won a $155 million contract to run a port terminal in Argentina in a joint venture with Mersey Docks and Harbour.

Under a 12-year deal with Siderar, an Argentinian steel producer, the two will operate an import and export terminal handling iron ore, coal and steel on the River Parana, 150 miles north of Buenos Aires.

The contract marks both the first joint venture and first non-UK port deal for Clarke Chapman, Rolls-Royce's materials handling arm. While both companies will have a 50/50 share in the proceeds from the venture, Mersey Docks will play a managerial role while Rolls-Royce will put up the new equipment.

The venture is to run under the name of Clarke Chapman-Portia Port Services. Barry Morgan, Clarke Chapman's managing director, said that the deal was the largest port contract won by Rolls-Royce.

Market report, page 30

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Unit trust funds hit £128bn peak

A BUOYANT UK stock market in August helped to swell unit trust funds under management by nearly £5 billion to a record £128 billion, according to new figures published today. The Association of Unit Trusts and Investment Funds (Autif) says net sales of unit trusts were £665 million compared with £609 million in July. Net new retail investment by private investors, however, was £346.7 million, the lowest monthly figure so far this year — although the number of unitholder accounts increased to 7.7 million against 7.5 million in July.

Sales of unit trust personal equity plans (Peps) again helped to boost the overall Autif figures, with net sales of £307 million compared with £246 million a year ago and £379 million in July. Autif also confirmed that its performance category committee has asked data providers to delete Morgan Grenfell's European funds from any comparative performance data, including league tables, they supply.

Celsis buys Lumac

CELSIS INTERNATIONAL, the specialist in microbial testing, is buying Lumac, the Swedish testing company, for £11.22 million, the deal to be funded by an £11.1 million rights issue. The seller is Perstorp, which will take £10 million in cash and £1.22 million in shares. The three-for-20 rights issue is priced at 100p per share, against yesterday's closing price of 112p, down 1p. Arthur Holden, the chief executive, said the deal provided "an excellent opportunity". Celsis was floated in 1993 and has seen annual sales rise from £274,000 to £5 million.

DCS exceeds forecasts

SHARES of DCS Group rose 28p to an all-time high of 225½p yesterday after the business software company's profits almost quadrupled to £2.37 million. The results, sharply ahead of City forecasts, include a full-year contribution from CSI, bought for £8.2 million in June 1995. In the year to June 30, sales rose from £8.7 million to £30.4 million. The resignation of three directors in March cost £297,000, after which earnings were 8.31p per share (5.02p). Analysts were yesterday forecasting profits of £4.2 million for the year to December 31. A final dividend of 1p, due December 2, makes a year total of 1.5p (1p).

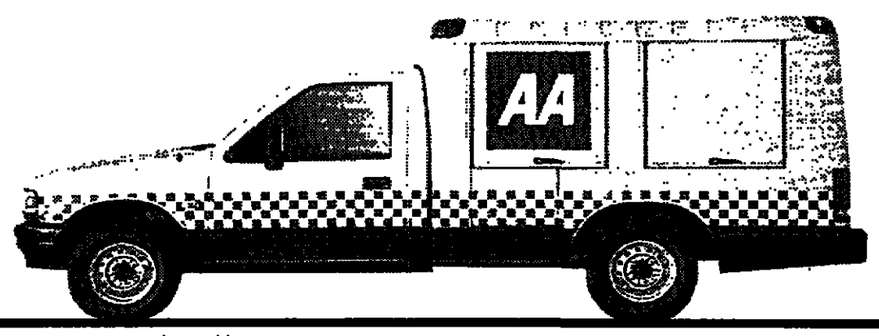
New Ducati ownership

DUCATI MOTORS, a newly formed joint venture between Claudio and Gianfranco Castiglioni and a group of investors led by Texas Pacific Group, has bought the assets of Ducati motorcycles from the Castiglioni brothers and Cagiva, their family company. Texas Pacific, based in San Francisco and Fort Worth, Texas, manages TPG Partners, a $720 million private investment partnership that specialises in corporate acquisitions. Ducati employs 570 people. Sales of Ducati motorbikes grew annually by 25 per cent between 1990 and 1995, reaching about £127 million in 1995.

Third chair for Wallis

STUART WALLIS, the former chief executive of Fisons, the pharmaceuticals company, today becomes chairman of Yorkshire Group, the maker of dyes, tanning materials, pigments and inks. This is his third appointment since Fisons was bought by Rhône-Poulenc Rorer of France late last year. Mr Wallis is non-executive chairman of Scholl, the footwear and footcare group, and Sheffield Forgemasters, the steel company. Mr Wallis said: "This will be my last chairmanship for a while, but I would ultimately see myself having half a dozen of them."

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هكذا من الأصل

☐ Hydro deal failure is bad news ☐ Restructuring looks inevitable at Eurotunnel ☐ Unblocking the company reporting jam

Knocked out by sleeping Gas

☐ CUSTOMERS and shareholders of British Gas alike had better wrap up warm, because it is going to be an awful winter. The abandonment of talks with Scottish Hydro-Electric over the sale of gas supply in Scotland and the north looks like the harbinger of much worse weather to come.

It is always hard to get a handle on just how bad things are at British Gas because the company is, how can one put this tactfully, inclined to minimise in its public utterances the extent of any problem. A useful rule of thumb is to multiply the admitted damage fivefold to tenfold.

Certainly, calls to this paper from Gas employees past and present since the computer chaos was first revealed on these pages suggest that the first week of severe frost is going to be very bad news for anyone who then needs their central heating fixed. Meanwhile, the software chaos that is sending red notices and threats of disconections to the fiscally blameless is clearly deep-rooted and possible widespread. Time alone will tell.

The failure of the Scottish Hydro deal is seriously bad news for the company, because it was a way out of an area that makes unacceptably low profits. It also put a clear value on the British Gas Energy business being demerged, which Gas says the City undervalues, and obtained some shareholder value for the inevitable loss of market share to full competition in 1998. Such a move might reasonably have been followed by the off-loading of other bits of the supply business. There would be no shortage of buyers — most of the electricity industry is queueing up to get into gas supply.

Now British Gas is stuck in a business that it is clearly not committed to ahead of full competition and the arrival of some very committed new players. Hydro is unlikely to be happy at the abrupt end of the talks. None of the reasons for the breakdown in negotiations make much sense. Gas was waffling yesterday about regulatory and commercial hurdles but unclear what these were. Clare Spottiswoode, the regulator, has apparently said that any sale to Hydro might require her to issue, horror of horrors, a consultative document. Given that the company is heading for a full Monopolies and Mergers Commission inquiry some time this week over charges for use of the pipeline business, TransCo, this would seem to be only a minor outbreak of hostilities.

The simple fact is that British Gas, below the senior board members who are still focused on the necessary strategy, is paralysed, in no fit shape for that strategy to be carried out. It lacks the means and the management to carry out the necessary accounting and due diligence needed before any deal could take place. Consider this: in the light of the billing shambles, how can you put a fair value on the business when you have no way of knowing just how much, at any given time, your customers owe you?

Heading out of the tunnel at last

☐ THERE is an awful inevitability about the passing of yet another deadline for Eurotunnel's rescheduling of its £9 billion of debt. Nothing yet on the Channel Tunnel has run to time, from building to starting up the various services; why should its financial death throes not be equally protracted?



There is an equal inevitability about the settlement that will eventually be reached, and the loss by ordinary shareholders of half or more of their voting power. What is being searched for is some way of ensuring, in headline terms alone, that those shareholders appear to come out on top while giving the banks, the true owners, what they want.

The squaring of this particular circle has been achieved. The co-chairmen, Sir Alastair Morton and Patrick Ponsolle, will emerge with a slip of paper "proving" that shareholders have hung on to 51 per cent of the shares and are therefore nominally in control. A convertible share issue to the banks, meanwhile, in return for forgiveness of some more of the debt would put them potentially in control. Result: saving of both face and company. What is being argued about now is the price at which those shares will convert, and the date. Too rapid or too cheap a conversion could bring further trouble from shareholders.

There are any number of compelling reasons why both sides, after a few more days/weeks/months of talks just to prolong the agony, will eventually settle. The tunnel is, operationally, a surefire success, with 45 per cent of the cross-Channel market and revenues that doubled this summer. But the ferry operators are marshalling for a counter-attack, and management effort should be concentrated on this. There is, simply, no upside in the talks collapsing.

The downside is horrendous, the ultimate lawyers' paradise. French shareholders suing French banks, French banks suing British banks, this small shareholder group suing that . . . it would be a straight rerun of Lloyd's of London, a nightmare that arose out of combined losses that were actually less than Eurotunnel's debt and one that the various protagonists are only just awaking from.

Preposterous preliminaries

☐ ANALYSTS may be grossly overpaid, and nine out of ten no use to anyone, but they do suffer for their art. A survey by KPMG of companies' preliminary results came across one announcement 77 pages long. Add a presentation by a nit-picking chief executive taking in every single factory, every blessed brand, every market worldwide, good for another 45 minutes, and then the question-and-answer session that can easily clock up another hour. Small wonder so much brokers' research fails to see the wood for the trees.

Now KPMG suggests, quite seriously, that this plethora of "preliminary" information so resembles the full accounts that appear a few weeks later that the two might as well be rolled into one. There is little in those accounts except the inevitable press reports of "fat-cat" pay packages, says KPMG, and this is "tangential to the main purpose of financial reporting". Perhaps, but it would be a shame to lose them.

Fair point, even if it fails to address the main problem with company reporting, the bunching of thousands of important trading statements into a reporting season lasting just two or three weeks. Inevitable if most companies must insist on a December financial year end, this does leave analysts and shareholders, both private and institutional, badly served.

Pricked balloon

☐ PENICILLIN, the compass, the internal combustion engine . . . they all paled into insignificance after the AIM debut in January of "the world's first process to convert ordinary latex balloons into balloons that can be sealed *without tying a knot*". This is not to be read as an investment recommendation. Self Sealing Systems has yet to make a cent, the share price has sadly detumesced since and yesterday the company decided to license the process rather than go it alone. But for the inventor of the "*eversion technique*" and the even more sublime "surface refreshing technique", a Nobel Prize, surely?

Britannic to back Refuge merger plan

BY MARIANNE CURPHEY

THE proposed merger between Refuge Assurance and United Friendly looked increasingly likely yesterday after two of Refuge's major investors, who hold 16 per cent of shares, decided to back the deal.

Britannic, which has a 10 per cent stake in Refuge, announced it would vote through the proposals. Prudential, with 6 per cent, is believed to have reached the same decision after Refuge published details of an improved offer yesterday. Britannic had initially expressed reservations about the deal and was among a number of major shareholders, including Prudential and Perpetual, who felt that Refuge shareholders were being short-changed because the deal failed to take into account Refuge's estimated £450 million of orphan assets.

However, Refuge bowed to shareholder pressure and set out the details of an improved offer, designed as a sweetener to quell opposition.

Phoenix Securities, Refuge's adviser, has invented a new security, which will be transferable but not listed on the stock market. It will entitle Refuge shareholders to receive any extra value in Refuge's ordinary branch fund should orphan assets be identified.

John Cudworth, Refuge's chief executive, said he did not believe there were any more orphan assets to which shareholders are entitled. Perpetual said it was "discouraged by some omissions" but added it was still considering the revised offer.

Under the improved offer, which will be formally proposed at an extraordinary meeting on October 16, Refuge shareholders will receive three new securities for every one Refuge share held.

The new security will be in the form of convertible deferred shares of 1p each. They would be able to be traded separately and any additional value would be represented by conversion of the security into new ordinary shares of the merged Refuge and United Friendly.

Guardian group falls

BY ERIC REGULY

GUARDIAN Media Group, owner of *The Guardian* and *Observer* newspapers, yesterday reported a 26 per cent fall in pre-tax profits to £20.1 million in the year to March 31 on turnover of £301.8 million, up 5 per cent.

Profits were hit by £4.7 million redundancy charges and a £10.3 increase in newsprint costs. GMG, owned by the Scott Trust, a charitable body, did not disclose results of the various divisions, but *Observer* losses are thought be running at about £500,000 a month, down from as much as £1 million a month last year. DMG said prospects "look better" because newsprint prices are easing, while circulation of many of its regional papers is on the rise.

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STOCK MARKET — MICHAEL CLARK



Brown's threat of windfall tax shakes the utilities

THE privatised utilities suffered sharp falls with the renewed threat of an incoming Labour government imposing a windfall tax.

Gordon Brown, the Shadow Chancellor, has suggested to the party faithful at Blackpool that one of his first moves would be to impose a windfall tax on the cash-rich former nationalised industries.

The electricity companies were particularly hard hit with losses recorded in **PowerGen** 10½p to 485p, **London** 14p to 613½p, **Northern** 15p to 516½p, **Southern** 23p to 615½p, and **Yorkshire** 11½p to 747p.

Brokers say the water companies are better placed to cope with the imposition of a windfall tax after their diversification. Even so the big players were still marked lower. **Severn Trent** lost 15½p at 590p, **Thames** 13p at 538½p, **United Utilities** 15p at 570½p, **Wessex** 8p at 353½p, and **Yorkshire** 11p at 632½p.

Elsewhere, genuine investment demand slowed to a trickle as fund managers balanced the books ahead of the final quarter. Prices recovered an early setback with the help of the latest money supply and consumer credit numbers. A positive start on Wall Street enabled the FT-SE 100 index to close near its best of the day with a rise of 7.3 at 3,953.7.

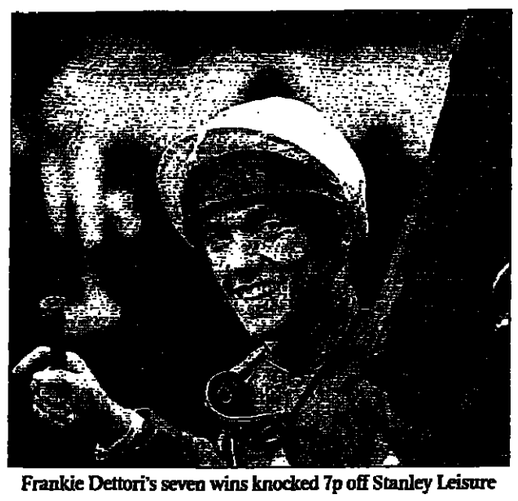
Hanson firmed 1¼p to 156¾p, closing just 4¼p above its low for the year. Later today shares in the group's **Millennium Chemicals** and **Imperial Tobacco** arms start trading independently as the proposed four-way demerger gets under way.

Shares of Millennium opened in New York, where they were trading last week on the grey market at $26 a piece, equivalent to 24p of the original Hanson share price. Imperial Tobacco is expected to start at 380p, or 38p pre-demerger.

Grand Metropolitan firmed 1p to 476½p ahead of a presentation for brokers last night.

Trading in shares of **Eurotunnel** were suspended in London at 113½p at the company's request with the warrants frozen at 45p. The company has been trying to renegotiate with a consortium of 200-plus banks over its debts.

Renewed worries about a soft drinks price war left **Cadbury Schweppes** nursing a 6p fall at 513½p. PepsiCo's$525 million restructuring charge on Thursday had dealers suggesting that Pepsi may cut the price of its non-cola soft drinks.



Frankie Dettori's seven wins knocked 7p off Stanley Leisure

Jockey Frankie Dettori's record-breaking seven wins at Ascot on Saturday has cost the bookies dearly. **Stanley Leisure** fell 7p to 235p after admitting that the feat is likely to cost it £2.25 million and will impact on half-year figures later this month. Two of its punters landed returns in excess of £200,000 and a third picked up more than £100,000.

Matthew Clark, the troubled cider group, clawed back some of its recent losses with a rise of 19p at 337½p amid talk that the group's weakened share price could leave it vulnerable to a bid.

Newly merged **LucasVarity** climbed 13p to match its high for the year of 254½p after some encouraging words about car sales from Ford, one of its biggest customers.

Takeover favourite **HTV Group** stood out with a rise of 16p at 351½p ahead of half-year figures tomorrow expected to show pre-tax profits £300,000 higher at £6.4 million. In the past few weeks HTV's name has been linked with that of **Carlton Communications**, down 3½p at 483p, and **United News & Media**, 6½p easier at 689p.

ADT tumbled 105p to £11.75 after it was announced that merger talks with Republic Industries had ended.

Deltron Electronics established a useful premium in first-time trading, opening at 167½p compared with the original placing price of 150p. The **Personal Number Company** was ringing up all the right numbers for investors after making its debut on the Alternative Investment Market. Placed at 66p, the shares opened at 70½p, touched 106p and settled at 101½p, a premium of 35½p.

One of last week's high flyer's, **Verity**, continued to make headway with the share 5p dearer at 28p as investors began pinning their hopes on a new sound system developed by the group. By the close a total of 40 million Verity shares had traded.

Aminex rose 3½p to 58½p after the International Finance Corporation picked up 6.9 million shares, or 15 per cent of the company at 57p. IFC has also agreed to bankroll Aminex £17 million to develop oilfields in Russia and Tunisia.

One of the best moves on the day was seen in **Self Sealant Systems**, up 18p at 39½p, after announcing it had placed its first machine under licence with the country's largest balloon maker. The company joined AIM earlier this year at 54p.

A useful profits increase last year at **Northern Leisure** was rewarded with a rise of 19p at 157p, but a doubling of profits last year at **Oasis Stores** failed to make much impact. The price finished 13½p lower at 392½p.

☐ **GILT-EDGED:** Prices rallied after a slow start but saw those gains pared by the latest September Chicago Purchasing Managers' Index.

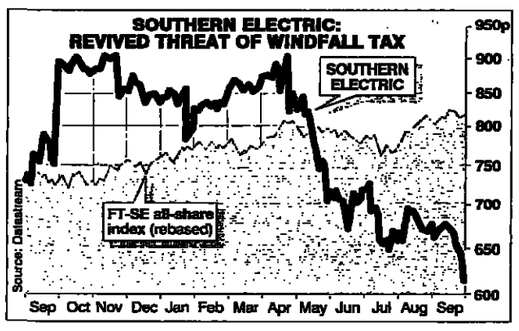
In the futures pit, the December series of the long gilt traded in limits of £108²⁷/₃₂ and £108²¹/₃₂ before closing a tick firmer at £108¹⁹/₃₂. Turnover reached 38,000 contracts, well below recent levels.

Existing stock of 2001 and 2003 will be auctioned October 22, existing stock within the range of 2014 to 2016 on October 24, and new short gilts due 2001 to 2003 in December.

In longs, Treasury 8 per cent 2015 was unchanged at £100¹/₃₂, while in shorts Treasury 8 per cent 2000 closed ¹/₈ up at £103¾.

☐ **NEW YORK:** Shares on Wall Street were higher as investors took heart from good economic news. By midday the Dow Jones industrial average was 28.48 points higher at 5,901.40.

Gowrings, the car distributor and fast food group, rose 16p to 92½p on news that its biggest shareholder Guinness Peat, the merchant bank, with 14 per cent of the shares is considering a bid. But sources point out that the Gowring family controls around 60 per cent. It is unlikely they would recommend any deal.



MAJOR INDICES

New York (midday):
Dow Jones 5901.40 (+28.48)
S&P Composite 689.35 (+3.16)

Tokyo:
Nikkei Average 21556.40 (+9.38)

Hong Kong:
Hang Seng 11902.43 (+143.04)

Amsterdam:
EOE Index 576.96 (+5.04)

Sydney:
AO 2390.4 (+7.4)

Frankfurt:
DAX 2651.85 (-7.19)

Singapore:
Straits 2177.16 (+6.11)

Brussels:
General 9764.94 (-22.50)

Paris:
CAC-40 2132.81 (+25.76)

Zurich:
SKA Gen 781.70 (+6.30)

London:

FT 30	2834.8 (+12.4)
FT 100	3953.7 (+7.3)
FTSE Mid 250	4391.1 (-15.1)
FTSE 350	1969.8 (+1.4)
FTSE Eurotrack 100	1724.86 (+1.42)
FT All-Share	1945.00 (+1.07)
FT Non Financials	2045.95 (-0.58)
FT Fixed Interest	113.91 (+0.03)
FT Govt Secs	93.73 (-0.15)
Bargains	44244
SEAQ Volume	695.0m
USM (Datastrm)	199.86 (+0.16)
US$	1.5640 (+0.0007)
German Mark	2.3854 (+0.0021)
Exchange Index	87.0 (+0.1)

Bank of England official close (4pm)

£/ECU	1.2438
£/SDR	1.0825
RPI	153.1 Aug (2.1%) Jan 1987=100
RPIX	152.8 Aug (2.8%) Jan 1987=100

RECENT ISSUES

AEA Technology	319	-	4
Amer Opps U Ln	95		...
Barbican Health	62½		...
Brunner Mond	168	-	1½
Cruden Bay	85½	-	4
Dairy Crest Gp	187½	-	1
Deltron Electrn (150)	167½		...
Dentmaster Hldgs	4		...
Elec Retail Sys	214½	-	3
Fayrewood	45½		...
GT Chile Gth Fund	25¼		...
Grosvenor Land	15¼		...
Hambros Smlr Asn C	65		...
Hartstone 8% Cum	122½	-	1
Life Numbers	12		...
Life Numbers Wts	5		...
Pemberstone Wrts	6		...
Personal Number	101½		...
Polydoc	70½		...
Schrod Emg Cou Wts	39		...
Schrod Emg Countrs	93½		...
Shallbane	137½		...
Weeks Group	7½		...

RIGHTS ISSUES

BICC n/p (270)	20½	-	1
Davis Fin Uts n/p	37½	-	1½
FII Group n/p (105)	3½		...
Grampian n/p (125)	4½	-	1

MAJOR CHANGES

RISES:

DCS Gp	225½p (+28P)
Matthew Clark	337½p (+19p)
LucasVarity	254½p (+13p)
Kenwood App	218½p (+11p)
Business Post	460p (+22½p)
HTV Gp	351½p (+16p)
JJB Sports	291p (+11p)
Boxmore Intl	317½p (+11p)
Chrysalis	517½p (+15p)
Smiths Inds	792½p (+15p)

FALLS:

Filtronic Com	181p (-18p)
Acom Comp	200p (-15½p)
Cohen (A)	525p (-20p)
Capital Radio	599p (-22½p)
Psion	425p (-15p)
Anglian	537½p (-18p)

Closing Prices Page 33

TEMPUS

Flexing Auntie's muscles

FLEXTECH and its American half-owner, Tele-Communications Inc, are at the forefront of a revolution at the BBC. The cable and satellite TV programmer has signed a deal that will transform the 74-year-old BBC from an institution funded by licence fees to one increasingly supported by commercial income. To do so, it will launch a dozen or so BBC-branded pay-TV channels on both sides of the Atlantic.

For the BBC it means global exposure at no expense. Its currency is programming, which it will provide in exchange for equity stakes in the subscription channels and a share of their profits. What, then, is left for the diminutive Flextech? It must invest almost £160 million, equivalent to one quarter of its market capitalisation, to find and develop markets for new channels in a TV-saturated world.

Flextech will probably share half the equity and profits with the BBC. It is gambling that the new channels will attract enough subscribers and advertising revenue to deliver a return on the investment. So far, this has not been easy. The existing channels have limited appeal — the Parliamentary and European Business News channels might have a few dozen regular viewers between them. Moreover, only a small proportion of the potential audience is linked to cable and satellite.

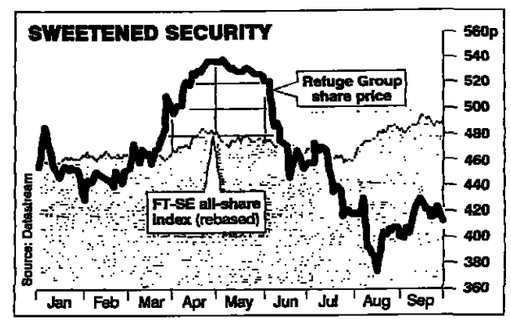
In the longer term, however, the outlook is more encouraging. Within ten years, more than ten million homes will have access to the "multichannel" market, and Flextech's new channels will have an edge because of their BBC content. It is no accident that UK Gold is one of the few profitable pay-TV channels — its content is drawn from the BBC's archives.

Refuge Group

HOW galling it must be for Refuge to spend large sums creating a new security which it believes is worthless. Yet, the life insurer is prepared to pay the price to see through its merger with United Friendly.

Refuge has created this sweetener in the face of a revolt from its largest shareholders after merger terms were announced. The institutions believe the insurer has up to £450 million in surplus assets which might become available for distribution in the future but which are not included in shareholder's funds. The rebels feared dilution of their claim on the assets when the owners of United Friendly become part of the enlarged group.

A bespoke security with a six-year life span will guarantee the original Refuge shareholders their share of the alleged booty. However, the Department of Trade and Industry has already looked at Refuge's ordinary branch funds and failed to find any money over which the shareholders could lay claim. For the new security to have intrinsic value that decision would need to be changed or challenged, perhaps in court. Nevertheless, the scepticism of the DTI and the Refuge board is not shared by several big funds. At least one speculator is circling, keen to buy the entire Refuge issue. If there is one gambler out there, he is unlikely to be alone and investors could yet see some competition for their worthless shares.



Institutional investment

UST as the dividend bounty from UK companies begins to dwindle, fund managers are putting their hands in their pockets to reinvest. It is about time; short-term assets were beginning to reach embarrassingly high levels, particularly in pension funds where liquidity is at levels not seen for four or five years. According to BZW's estimates, the cash content of life and pension fund portfolios is £44 billion, a hefty 4.2 per cent of total assets. Share buybacks and special dividends in the first half of the year swelled the fund's coffers and a net disinvestment by institutions in the first quarter worsened the picture.

Having sat on the fence for three months, fund managers started to buy shares in the second quarter, investing a net £2.3 billion but it was not enough to avoid a further build-up of cash from investment income. Holdings of short-term assets increased by £4.3 billion in the three months to June. Maturing pension liabilities in part explains the need for liquidity but the unavoidable conclusion is that some fund managers have been hoarding cash in the conviction that an interest rate rise was just round the corner. Meanwhile, companies that raised their own liquidity in a feverish bout of destocking in winter are moving into a reinvestment phase. Were that to be characterised by a winter round of rights issues, the institutions will be well-placed to help out the corporate sector. However, their decision to hoard cash this spring will mean poor performance figures for some fund managers.

Stanley Leisure

STANLEY Leisure, the gambling company, seems to be suffering a run of bad luck, a state of affairs normally experienced by its more profligate customers. Profits last year were hit hard by the arrival of the lottery, and the ensuing scratch-cards. Weekend results from Ascot forced the company to issue a profits warning. Frankie Dettori's record seven winning rides last weekend cost Stanley around £2.25 million, with two punters each scooping more than £200,000.

The warning prompted an inevitable decline in the company's share price as analysts downgraded forecasts. But the £2.25 million could ultimately prove to be money well spent. As the Lottery begins to lose its novelty what better advertisement for the attractions of the neighbourhood bookie? Betting shops have suffered recently not just from lottery competition but from too much predictability in the results. For Stanley, a bad day at the races could be worth untold millions in free publicity.

EDITED BY CARL MORTISHED

COMMODITIES

LIFFE

COCOA

Dec	987-98b	Mar	1073 BID
Mar	1012-1011	May	1084-1082
May	1022-1021	Jul	1090 SLR
Jul	1036-1035		
Sep	1051-1050		
Dec	1062-1060	Volume: 10418	

ROBUSTA COFFEE ($)

Nov	1490-1488	Jul	1380-1365
Jan	1435-1432	Sep	1370-1360
Mar	1395-1397		
May	1381-1379	Volume: 3565	

WHITE SUGAR (FOB)

Reuters		Aug	326.5-25.3
Spot: 331.5		Oct	320.0-18.5
Dec	327.0-26.0	Dec	325.0-23.0
Mar	323.0-22.5	Mar	327.5-26.0
May	323.0-21.8	Volume: 771	

MEAT & LIVESTOCK COMMISSION

Average fatstock prices at representative markets on September 27

(p/kg lw)	Pig	Sheep	Cattle
GB:	100.98	114.12	95.66
(+/-)	-7.10	-1.34	-3.19
Eng/Wales:	100.98	114.16	95.87
(+/-)	-7.10	-1.20	-3.19
(%)	+29.0	+20.0	-16.0
Scotland:	unq	113.76	91.88
(+/-)		-2.52	-4.76
(%)		-34.0	-53.0

ICIS-LOR (London 6.00pm)

CRUDE OILS ($/barrel FOB)

Brent Physical	23.25	+0.25
Brent 15 day (Nov)	23.30	+0.40
Brent 15 day (Dec)	22.80	+0.50
W Texas Intermediate (Nov)	24.45	+0.45
W Texas Intermediate (Dec)	23.85	+0.40

PRODUCTS ($/MT)

Spot CIF NW Europe (prompt delivery)

	Bid	Offer
Premium Unld	207 (+1)	209 (+1)
Gasoil EEC	235 (+5)	237 (+5)
3.5 Fuel Oil	114 (n/c)	115 (n/c)
Naphtha	214 (n/c)	216 (-1)

IPE FUTURES (GNI Ltd)

GAS OIL

Nov	223.25-23.50	Feb	200.75 BID
Dec	215.50 BID	Mar	191.50 BID
Jan	208.25 BID		Vol: 21606

BRENT (6.00pm)

Nov	23.29-23.32	Feb	n/a
Dec	22.81-22.83	Mar	20.94 BID
Jan	22.23-22.24		Vol: 33115

GNI LONDON GRAIN FUTURES

WHEAT (close £/t)		BARLEY (close £/t)	
Nov	103.65	Nov	101.00
Jan	105.40	Jan	102.00
Mar	107.00	Mar	103.50
May	109.00	May	105.00
Jul	111.00		
Volume: 512		Volume: 100	

POTATO (£/t)

	Open	Close
Nov	unq	57.50
Mar		75.50
Apr	72.0	71.70
	Volume: 61	

RUBBER (No 1 RSS Cif p/lb)

Oct 86.25-86.75

BIFFEX (GNI Ltd $10/pt)

	High	Low	Close
Oct 96	1140	1135	1125
Nov 96	1205	1205	1190
Jan 97	1240	1235	1215
Apr 97	—	—	1231
Vol: 344 lots		Open Interest: 4828	
		Index 1000 +2	

(Official) (Volume prev day)

LONDON METAL EXCHANGE — Reuter Wolff

	Cash:	3mth:	Vol:
Copper Gde A ($/tonne)	1937.0-1938.0	1938.0-1940.0	1618525
Lead ($/tonne)	764.50-765.00	767.00-768.00	149100
Zinc Spec Hi Gde ($/tonne)	990.50-991.00	1016.0-1016.5	229425
Tin ($/tonne)	5975.0-5980.0	6040.0-6045.0	21845
Aluminium Hi Gde ($/tonne)	1354.5-1355.0	1389.5-1390.0	848850
Nickel ($/tonne)	7055.0-7060.0	7168.0-7170.0	85560

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

	Period	Open	High	Low	Sett	Vol
FTSE 100	Dec 96	3983.0	3993.0	3962.0	3987.0	9498
Previous open interest: 59242	Mar 97	3978.0	3978.0	3976.0	3990.0	77
FTSE 250	Dec 96				4420.0	0
Previous open interest: 3571	Mar 97					0
Three Month Sterling	Dec 96	94.05	94.05	94.01	94.02	15097
Previous open interest: 435086	Mar 97	93.90	93.90	93.85	93.86	8656
	Jun 97	93.64	93.65	93.58	93.59	9513
Three Mth Euro Yen	Mar 97	99.23	99.23	99.22	99.22	151
	Jun 97	99.04	99.04	99.04	99.03	50
Three Mth Euro DM	Dec 96	96.84	96.86	96.83	96.85	13148
Previous open interest: 1029075	Mar 97	96.78	96.79	96.76	96.78	12448
Long Gilt	Dec 96	108-20	108-24	108-14	108-19	379e2
Previous open interest: 145230	Mar 97				107-23	0
Japanese Govmt Bond	Dec 96	121.35	122.19	122.04	122.16	1414
	Mar 97	121.27	121.28	121.24	121.30	310
German Gov Bd Bund	Dec 96	98.71	98.80	98.62	98.66	85317
Previous open interest: 240005	Mar 97	97.70	97.71	97.70	97.66	250
Three month ECU	Dec 96	95.85	95.85	95.82	95.84	335
Previous open interest: 21812	Mar 97	95.82	95.82	95.81	95.82	179
Euro Swiss Franc	Dec 96	98.39	98.40	98.35	98.37	3605
Previous open interest: 75676	Mar 97	98.32	98.33	98.26	98.29	1148
Italian Govmt Bond	Dec 96	121.85	121.90	121.25	121.49	43821
Previous open interest: 77987	Mar 97	120.74	120.74	120.74	120.73	100

MONEY RATES (%)

Base Rates: Clearing Banks 5½ Finance Hse 6
Discount Market Loans: O/night high: 5½ Low 5⅜ Week fixed: 5½
Treasury Bills (Dis): Buy: 2 mth 5¹³/₁₆ ; 3 mth 5¹⁵/₁₆ . Sell: 2 mth 5⅜ ; 3 mth: 5¹⁵/₁₆ .

	1 mth	2 mth	3 mth	6 mth	12 mth
Prime Bank Bills (Dis):	5¹³/₁₆-5¹⁵/₁₆	5¹¹/₁₆-5¹³/₁₆	5¹⁵/₁₆-5¹¹/₁₆	5¹¹/₁₆-5⅝	
Sterling Money Rates:	5⅛-5¼	5⅛-5¼	5⅛-5¼	5⅛-5⅜	6¼-6½
Interbank:	5⅛-5¼	5⅛-5¼	5⅛-5¼	5⅛-5⅜	6¼-6½
Overnight: open 5⅛, close 5⅜ .					
Local Authority Deps:	5⅛	n/a	5¹⁵/₁₆	5⅝	6
Sterling CDs:	5¹⁵/₁₆-5¹⁵/₁₆	5¹⁵/₁₆-5¹⁵/₁₆	5¹⁵/₁₆-5¹⁵/₁₆	5¹⁵/₁₆-5¹⁵/₁₆	6¼-6½
Dollar CDs:	5.32	n/a	5.30	5.04	5.07
Building Society CDs:	5⅛-5¼	5¹⁵/₁₆-5¹⁵/₁₆	5¹⁵/₁₆-5¹⁵/₁₆	5⅛-5⅜	6¼-6½

EUROPEAN MONEY DEPOSITS (%)

Currency	7 day	1 mth	3 mth	6 mth	Call
Dollar:	5⅛-4⅞	5⅛-5⅛	5⅛-5⅛	5⅛-5⅛	5-4
Deutschemark:	3⅛-2⅞	3⅛-2⅞	3⅛-3	3⅛-3	3⅛-2⅞
French Franc:	3⅛-3⅛	3⅛-3⅛	3⅛-3⅛	3⅛-3⅛	4-3
Swiss Franc:	1⅛-1⅛	1⅛-1⅛	1⅛-1⅛	1⅛-1⅛	2-1
Yen:	⅛-⅛	⅛-⅛	⅛-⅛	⅛-⅛	1-par

GOLD/PRECIOUS METALS (Baird & Co)

Bullion: Open $380.30-380.60 Close: $378.35-378.85 High: $380.30-380.60
Low: $378.30-378.80 AM: $379.30 PM: $379.00

Krugerrand: $377.00-380.00 (£241.00-243.00)

Platinum: $383.00 (£245.20) Silver: $4.88 (£3.115) Palladium: $118.75 (£76.00)

STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES

Mid Rates for Sept 30	Range	Close	1 month	3 month
Amsterdam	2.6730-2.6792	2.6734-2.6763	¼-¾pr	2-1¾pr
Brussels	49.031-49.200	49.031-49.119	15-10pr	37-31pr
Copenhagen	9.15004-9.1720	9.1514-9.1607	2-1½pr	5¼-4¼pr
Dublin	0.9744-0.9781	0.9754-0.9769	4-1pr	5pr -1ds
Frankfurt	2.3825-2.3886	2.3836-2.3856	¼-⅛pr	1¼-1pr
Lisbon	242.18-243.14	242.39-242.59	¼-⅛ds	¼-⅛ds
Madrid	200.42-201.00	200.60-200.84	18-28ds	47-64ds
Milan	2378.3-2386.9	2378.3-2380.9	41-56ds	119-140ds
Montreal	2.1276-2.1324	2.1288-2.1307	36-31pr	71-62pr
New York	1.5608-1.5642	1.5630-1.5638	0.067-0.047pr	0.118-0.087pr
Oslo	10.151-10.182	10.160-10.169	¼-¼pr	¼-¼pr
Paris	8.0640-8.0850	8.0659-8.0723	1¼-1¼pr	4¼-4¼pr
Stockholm	10.343-10.378	10.347-10.365	¼-¼pr	¼-¼pr
Tokyo	173.87-174.54	174.04-174.21	¼-¼pr	2¼-2¾pr
Vienna	16.759-16.803	16.768-16.783	¼-¼pr	1¼-¼pr
Zurich	1.9588-1.9653	1.9588-1.9608	¼-¼pr	2¼-2¾pr

Source: Extel

Premium - pr. Discount - ds.

DOLLAR RATES

Australia	1.2626-1.2634
Austria	10.72-10.73
Belgium (Com)	31.40-31.41
Canada	1.3620-1.3625
Denmark	5.8565-5.8600
France	5.1622-5.1647
Germany	1.5252-1.5258
Hong Kong	7.7328-7.7333
Ireland	1.5995-1.6005
Italy	1523.50-1524.50
Japan	111.48-111.53
Malaysia	2.5056-2.5066
Netherlands	1.7108-1.7113
Norway	6.5004-6.5042
Portugal	155.17-155.22
Singapore	1.4075-1.4085
Spain	128.37-128.41
Sweden	6.6196-6.6265
Switzerland	1.2535-1.2545

OTHER STERLING

Argentina peso*	1.5624-1.5650
Australia dollar	1.9730-1.9751
Bahrain dinar	0.5820-0.5940
Brazil real*	1.5598-1.5608
China yuan	n/a
Cyprus pound	0.7225-0.7325
Finland markka	7.0700-7.1860
Greece drachma	372.0-380.0
Hong Kong dollar	12.0848-12.0910
India rupee	55.17-56.13
Indonesia rupiah	3590.0-3658.6
Kuwait dinar KD	0.4635-0.4735
Malaysia ringgit	3.9147-3.9188
New Zealand dollar	2.2328-2.2373
Pakistan rupee	57.15 Buy
Saudi Arabia riyal	5.6200-5.7440
Singapore dollar	2.1932-2.2020
S Africa rand (com)	7.0130-7.1150
U A E dirham	5.6700-5.7940

Barclays Bank GTS ° Lloyds Bank

FTSE VOLUMES

3I	1,400	LucasVarity	10,200
ASDA Gp	12,800	Marks Spr	2,700
Abbey Nti	2,100	NatWst Bk	4,100
Allied Dom	1,600	Nat Grid	4,900
Argos	553	Nat Power	3,200
AB Foods	1,400	Next	191
BAA	2,300	Orange	3,100
BAT Inds	6,500	P & O	2,500
BOC	1,100	Pearson	1,900
BP	5,100	Pilkington	1,900
BSkyB	2,200	PowerGen	725
BTR	4,400	Prudential	2,600
BT	10,600	RMC	441
Bk of Scot	2,800	RTZ	1,700
Barclays	3,300	Railtrack	4,600
Bass	1,400	Rank Org	1,500
Blue Circle	969	Reckitt Col	676
Boots	961	Redland	532
BAe	1,200	Reed Intl	896
BA	1,100	Rentokil	3,600
Brit Gas	15,700	Reuters	1,800
Brit Steel	5,500	Rolls Royce	4,900
Burmah Cstl	359	Royal & Sun	3,700
Burton	4,900	Royal Bk Sct	907
Cable Wire	3,700	Safeway	1,700
Cadbury	1,200	Sainsbury	2,200
Carlton Cms	1,500	Schroders	106
Cm Union	820	Scot & New	648
Courtaulds	1,500	Scot Power	1,500
Dixons	1,100	Svrn Trent	600
EMI	355	Shell Trans	3,500
Enterpr Oil	2,700	Slebe	980
GKN	673	SmKl Bch	3,500
GRE	1000	Smith Nph	1,100
GUS	1,300	Smiths Inds	473
Gen Acc	349	Sthern Elec	2,600
Gen Elec	2,700	Sid Chartd	2,100
Glaxo Well	3,400	TI Gp	757
Granada	1,400	Tate & Lyle	1,000
Grand Met	3,600	Tesco	4,400
Guinness	3,100	Thames W	1,000
HSBC	2,800	Tomkins	4,600
Hanson	38,500	Unilever	2,200
ICI	1,400	Utd Utilities	588
Kingfisher	1,300	Utd News	1,400
LASMO	2,200	Vodafone	6,700
Ladbroke	3,200	Whitbread	324
Land Secs	863	Wilms Hld	1,400
Legal & Gn	1,900	Wolseley	412
Lloyds TSB	4,600	Zeneca	1,100

WALL STREET

	Sep 30 midday	Sep 27 close
AMP Inc	38½	38¾
AMR Corp	80¾	79½
ASA	38¼	38⅞
AT & T	51¼	51½
Abbott Labs	49¾	49¾
Advanced Micro	14⅝	14½
Aetna Life	70½	70¾
Ahmanson (HF)	28¼	28
Air Prod & Chem	58½	57¾
AirTouch Comm	27¾	27¾
Alberto-Culver B	43⅝	43¾
Albertson's	42¼	42¾
Alcan Aluminm	30	30
Alco Standard	49¾	49¾
Allied Signal	66½	64¾
Alum Co of Am	59½	58½
Amax Gold Inc	5½	5¾
Amerada Hess	53½	53¾
Amer Brands	42¾	42½
Amer El Power	40¾	40¾
Amer Express	46½	46¾
Amer Genl Corp	38¾	37¾
Amer Home Pr	64¾	63¾
Amer Intl	100¼	100¼
Amer Stores	40	40
Amer Standard	34½	34½
Ameritech	52½	52¾
Amoco	70¾	70½
Anheuser-Busch	37½	37¾
Apple Computer	22½	22¾
Archer Daniels	19¾	19
Armco	4½	4¾
Armstrng Wrld	62¾	62¾
Asarco	26¾	26½
Atl Richfield	127¼	127
Auto Data Pro	43½	43½
Avery Dennison	55½	54½
Avon Products	49¾	49¾
Baker Hughes	30¾	30¾
Baltim Gas & El	26½	26
Banc One	40¾	40¾
BankAmerica	82¾	82½
Bank of NY	29¾	29¾
Bankers Tr NY	78¾	77½
Barnett Banks	53½	53¾
Bausch & Lomb	37	37¾
Baxter Intl	40¾	40¾
Becin Dickinsn	44¾	44
Bell Atlantic	59¾	59½
Bell Industries	19½	19¾
BellSouth	36½	36¾
Black & Decker	31¼	30¾
Block (H&R)	29¾	29½
Boeing	95½	94¾
Boise Cascade	33¾	33½
Bristol Myrs Sq	97¾	96½
Browning Ferris	25	25¾
Brunswick	24½	24¾
Burlington Nthn	84¾	84½
CMS Energy Corp	30¾	29¾
CNA Financial	98½	98¾
CPC Intl	75½	75
CSX	50¾	51¼
Campbell Soup	78	78¾
Can Pacific	23¾	23¾
Carolina Pwr	34¾	34¼
Caterpillar	75	74
Central & SW	26½	26½
Champion Intl	46	45¾
Chase Manhat	81½	80¾
Chevron Corp	62½	61¾
Chrysler	28¾	28
Chubb Corp	69½	69½
Cigna Corp	121½	120¾
Cincinnati	91¾	90½
Citicrp	97	96½
Coastal Corp	41¾	41¾
Coca Cola	51½	50¾
Coca Cola Ent	45½	45¾
Colgate-Palmolive	87¾	88¼
Columbia Gas	55¾	56
ColumbiaHCA	57½	57½
Compaq Comp	64¼	64¼
Comp Ass Int	60¾	60
Conagra	49¾	49¾
Conrail	72¾	73
Cons Edison	27¾	28
Cons Nat Gas	53¾	54¼
Cooper Inds	42¾	42¾
Cyprus	41½	43½
Corning Inc	38¾	38½
Crown Cork	46¼	46¼
Dana Corp	29¾	30¾
Dayton Hudson	31¾	32½
Deere	42½	42
Delta Air Lines	72¾	71
Deluxe Corp	37¾	37¾
Digital Equip	36½	36½
Dillard Dept St	33¾	32¾
Disney (Walt)	63¾	63
Dominion Res	38	38¼
Donelley (RR)	32¾	32¾
Dover Corp	48¾	47¾
Dow Chemical	80¾	80¾
Dow Jones	37¾	37¾
Dresser	29¾	29¾
Duke Power	47	46½
Dun & Bradstreet	59¾	59¾
Du Pont	68¾	69½

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

Hollywood endorsement

GOOD news for Sir Richard Greenbury, chairman and chief executive of Marks & Spencer. Joan Collins, famous for her *Dynasty*-size shoulder pads and power suits, boasts in the latest issue of *Good Housekeeping* that she buys some of her best outfits in the high street store. Collins said: "Yesterday I wore a little M&S T-shirt and friends said: 'So chic, darling!' If it's beautifully cut, why should I care about the chainstore label?"

WHO will be left at Brunswick after yet another minion flies to the political fore? The latest to leave the PR firm is 25-year-old Andrew Honnor, an Exeter University graduate who has been appointed special adviser to Virginia Bottomley, the National Heritage Secretary. Not bad, Andrew — look what happened to John Berkow, Conservative candidate for Buckingham, and Robert Creighton, chief executive of the Great Ormond Street Hospital for Children.



Bottomley: recruiting

Local difficulty

A ROW has broken out between commodity traders and Liffe, the newly merged futures and commodities exchange in London. Some 30 traders, known as "locals", have made claims that Liffe and the former London Commodities Exchange owe them up to £10,000 each. Alan Gloyne, a local on the coffee floor, said: "The treatment we have received has been grossly unfair. They simply sidelined us. The LCE should have had its house in order before it merged with Liffe."

Business model

WENCHE Marshall Foster, who stands down as chairman and chief executive of Perrier Vittel in December, was once the face of Royal couturier Norman Hartnell. In England to learn the language, Marshall Foster ended up on the catwalk in Hartnell's west London salon. Still in her early 20 she gave it up, before it gave her up, to join a sales promotion company. Perrier was one of her clients.

Air guitarist

AT AN impromptu performance in Yorkshire, Harvey Goldsmith and Ed Simons, chairman and chief executive of Allied Entertainment, proved their worth at the weekend. To announce their decision to join Superdome UK as non-executive directors, they flew in by helicopter for the photo-call at the 100-acre site that is being turned into the world's biggest sporting and entertainment facility under one roof. On landing, a photographer thrust a guitar into Goldsmith's hands. It was right-handed. Goldsmith is left-handed, and the concert promoter can't play a note.

Confusion at Financial Teletext yesterday, where the switchboard was alive with callers. They wanted to know why Thursday's headlines were appearing on their screens? Was it the symptom of a good weekend? No, a technical switching problem.

MORAG PRESTON



Children in every state school will be able to use online computers under BT's controversial deal with the Labour Party if it wins the next election

How business and Labour are staying on the line

A year after Blair announced the BT deal, **Philip Bassett** assesses developments

When Tony Blair, the Labour Party leader, today gives his keynote address to Labour's annual conference, business leaders will be watching closely for anything like his announcement a year ago today of a new deal between Labour and BT.

Mr Blair's BT announcement provoked a storm of controversy. He said a future Labour government would introduce a different regulatory regime for BT over broadbanded communications, while in return BT would link up for free all the public institutions, including schools, hospitals and libraries, which its cable-laying programme took it past.

Politically, for the Conservatives, the message was brutally clear. Here was one of Britain's biggest and most successful companies, and one in particular which had benefited hugely from the Conservatives' privatisation programme, in effect setting out its view that Labour, rather than the Conservatives, would win the next election.

Faced with such unequivocal nailing of colours to the mast, the Conservatives launched a ferocious and sustained counterattack, led by Ian Lang, President of the Board of Trade, but undermined when the deal was backed by a former Conservative Party chairman, Lord Tebbit, in his role as a BT director.

The Government said Labour's move was fundamentally anti-competitive — Labour trying to set up in advance a tight little cartel that would be of no benefit to business, with ministers emphasising that such an approach showed how little even Mr Blair's new Labour understood the real operation of the commercial marketplace. But Sir Iain Vallance, now BT's chairman, remained undeterred. Photographed carefully with Mr Blair in his hotel suite, BT's boss and BT generally stood its ground, insisting that the deal was good for its business, and good for Britain.

Now, a year on, where does Labour's controversial BT deal stand? The most significant point about it, both BT and Labour leaders believe, is precisely that the deal is unaltered by the attacks it received: a clear agreement that, in line with the recommendations of the Commons Trade and Industry Select Committee, BT will be given what it sees as the same access as some of its competitors to new information and entertainment networks. Geoff Hoon, Labour's information technology spokesman, and the frontbencher designated by the party leadership to be the principal conduit for business and Labour, acknowledges that Labour was surprised about how much of an impact the BT deal had. However, he says its public-private mix, with the State as an enabler of successful business, is a model of government activity which business appreciates.

What Labour has done since the deal was announced, apart from maintaining contacts with BT, is to reassure the cable companies that they would not be either excluded from or disadvantaged in the information superhighways of the future under a Labour government.

"We very much acknowledge the cable companies' contribution," says Mr Hoon, who yesterday in Blackpool addressed a fringe meeting on new technologies. "They have wired up schools and other institutions as they pass them too." He emphasises that what Labour is doing in its BT deal is making sure that the market is fully open, rather than seeing a leading player such as BT excluded.

For its part, BT remains satisfied with the arrangement. Senior managers have done little over the past year to take it forward, resting instead on the knowledge that an arrangement is in place which will, if Labour is elected, give the company what it regards as vital market access rather more quickly than the Conservative Government intended.

Business will be looking today not necessarily for another BT-style business rabbit to be pulled from the leader's speech hat by Tony Blair, but will be listening to him attentively to see how close to business — and even further away from the trade unions — he will seek to shift the party.

That business and Labour are now closer than probably at any time in the party's history is clear. The Confederation of British Industry yesterday staged its first-ever fringe meeting at the Labour Party conference, although Adair Turner, the CBI Director-General, was quick to point out that the CBI will follow it with a similar meeting at the Conservatives' conference in Bournemouth next week.

The Institute of Directors has a stand at Labour's conference this week, and officials from all the main business bodies were in Blackpool yesterday to hear Labour's views on the economy.

Business may still be doing no more than buying insurance in the event of a Labour victory at the general election: but if BT's deal with Labour is anything to go by, it may be a purchase well worth business making.



ANATOLE KALETSKY

Labour needs to get real

Alas, poor Gordon. Flying to the Labour Party conference in Blackpool straight from the annual meeting of the International Monetary Fund in Washington put Gordon Brown's last big speech to the party faithful as Shadow Chancellor in an interesting perspective. Mr Brown's long speech covered every area of policy — education, training, environment, industrial policy, health and social security — apart from the ones he will actually have to deal with when he graduates to the real job.

The proper finance ministers in Washington may pay lip service to the "supply side" but they devote all their real energies to the standard macroeconomic issues: currencies, budget deficits and interest rates.

Mr Brown's desire to dodge such issues is understandable: why give hostages to fortune? The trouble is that he seems genuinely to believe that most of his time as Chancellor will be spent on supply-side nostrums. As a result Labour is totally unprepared for a huge economic challenge that could face it in office — a challenge which the delegates at Blackpool, from Mr Brown downwards, do not even have the mental equipment to imagine.

Almost everyone in Blackpool believes that a new Labour government will face a run on sterling and may have to respond with a sharp increase in interest rates. What they cannot even begin to imagine is a run on the currency caused by speculators scrambling to buy pounds.

Ridiculous? Not to judge by the only question I was asked in Washington about Britain: "Does Labour have any plans to prevent a surge in sterling after the election?" The question came from one of the shrewdest economic observers I know, who works for a big American hedge fund. It did not surprise me at all, but Labour has only one answer: "We should be so lucky".

Yet, after the election, all the classic conditions for a surge in sterling will be in place: a strong domestic economy, rising consumer confidence, a stable government, low inflation and interest rates much higher than in the rest of Europe. Now add in Mr Brown's eagerness to demonstrate his anti-inflationary virility by raising interest rates immediately after the election and we have all the components for a speculative vicious circle.

If the rise in interest rates sucked in foreign money it would be hailed as a vote of confidence in "new" Britain. Thus the stronger currency would boost domestic confidence as well as real incomes and consumption (as in the mid-1980s). Mr Brown, determined not to repeat what he sees (incorrectly) to be the mistakes of the 1980s by allowing a consumer boom, would respond by hiking interest rates again — pulling in more foreign money and giving the vicious circle another spin.

Now for the real nightmare. Suppose a Labour government also declared itself for monetary union. The speculators would then see the proverbial one-way street. The post-election currency surges in 1979, 1987 and (briefly) 1992 were followed by a widening trade deficit and eventual currency collapse. But if Britain joined EMU in 1999, or shortly after, speculators would be spared even that danger. With Britain offering higher interest rates than Germany and France, while the prospect of EMU eliminates the currency risk, there would be no limit on how far the pound could rise.

In principle, Mr Brown could avoid such a disaster. He could refrain from raising interest rates after the election, even if consumption was worryingly strong. Instead he could show he was serious about inflation by tightening fiscal policy. So the answer to the hedge fund operator's question is obvious: Mr Brown could avoid a sharp rise in sterling. He could raise taxes and cut public spending straight after the election. He could rule out membership of EMU. And, if necessary, he could cut interest rates against the Bank of England's advice in the midst of a consumer boom. And the skies above Downing Street could be filled with flying pigs.

Oliver August on the battle to stamp out the world's 'third-largest industry'



Coining it: Al Capone, left, and his cronies used launderettes to legitimise dirty money

Governments gunning for money launderers

According to the myth, the term money laundering derives from Al Capone's practice of using a string of coin-operated launderettes in Chicago to disguise his revenue from gambling, prostitution, racketeering and violation of the Prohibition laws.

It's a nice story, but not true. Money laundering is so called because it perfectly describes the process of removing the stains and smells which the money acquires when the gangsters earn it.

In his book *The Laundrymen*, Jeffrey Robinson said: "The source of illegally obtained funds is obscured through a succession of transfers and deals in order that those same funds can eventually be made to reappear as legitimate income."

Kenneth Clarke, the Chancellor, has now thrown his weight behind the fight against such practices and is trying to stamp out this "third-largest industry worldwide". Already in party conference mood, he said: "Money launderers are criminals. They must be stopped in their tracks, caught and punished."

He told Commonwealth finance ministers at their meeting in Bermuda last Thursday that money laundering poses a serious threat to the economic health of their nations. "It is a concern that can only be addressed on a fully international basis," he said.

"Professional criminals seeking a safe harbour for their criminal proceeds will always locate the weakest links in the anti-money laundering chain. So countries which have not yet put the necessary protective measures in place will find themselves attracting the wrong sort of business, not only from fraudsters and crooks, but also from criminals that properly regulated centres have turned away."

The Treasury sent Mr Clarke to Bermuda with more than just a speech. He unpacked in front of his colleagues what the Treasury calls an "anti-money laundering tool kit". This was a list of measures which the Treasury found useful and, so it claims, won the war against the money scrubbers in Britain.

Understandably, the list is not made public. The money launderers are thought to be sophisticated enough to follow the Chancellor's pronouncements. All that he would say is that the tool kit would provide "guidance on how to introduce and implement effective anti-money laundering legislation and systems".

But by looking at the factors which led to the recent growth in the launderymen's activity, the nature of the measures is obvious. Lax regulation and supervision attracts dirty money like nothing else. Young stock markets in developing countries are easy prey for criminals versed in the art of accountancy.

The existence of tax havens also influences the flow of money. As long as criminals can hide their profits in secret off-shore accounts, they will have the breathing space to find new holes in the legislative fabric put up to stop them. This is where Britain will find it harder to lecture the rest of the world. A former legal adviser to MI5 and MI6 recently called on the Government to abolish banking secrecy in its dependent territories. David Bickford said: "There appears to be no justification at all for off-shore bank secrecy other than to protect criminals."

Many developing countries turn a blind eye to money laundering, or postpone change, because they believe the funds will generate prosperity. However, a new IMF working paper argues that driving out the dirty money would actually increase prosperity. Vito Tanzi, the author, says that the presence of this money in the system diminishes economic efficiency. Scarce resources are not allocated according to fundamentals but in response to cash flows determined by criminals who make investment decisions for wholly different reasons.

Al Capone may decide to invest in laundromats, not because they will yield a good return, but because they clean up his dirty proceeds. The ensuing laundry boom, which must crash when Capone goes to jail, will draw away resources from, say, ice cream parlours or book shops. If the good burghers of Chicago had known, they would have had another reason to fear Capone.

BUSINESS LETTERS

Go straight to top for better service

From Mr Geoff Wilson

Sir, I strongly disagree with Mr Roger Wood's letter ("British Gas defends the quality of a phone service under pressure", September 26).

My wife and I have been trying to contact the British Gas Service Centre (01784 451411) over the past three weeks. Of the numerous calls made, only two have been answered by the customer service agent (CSA). In spite of the CSA's promise to get an engineer to our home (on two separate occasions), no one called! Even a letter to British Gas from my wife dated September 12 remains unanswered.

I sympathise with Richard Fortin's letter ("All lines of communication exhausted", September 26); what do I do next? I faxed Mr John Evans, customer relations manager on 01784 899050. Mrs King telephoned me within an hour and booked an appointment for an engineer to call at our home today; a choice of morning or afternoon. Mrs King? Is she related to the King who did wonders for BA's service image.

Yours faithfully,
GEOFF WILSON,
143 Elborough Street, SW8.

I don't seem to be able to get through to British Gas

From Mr John Stevenson

Sir, Well done, Pennington (Under Pressure Again). Yesterday I telephoned British Gas more than 30 times over a period of three hours. I only wish I had only had to make "two or three phone calls" to get through. I gave up trying and called the Gas Consumers Council, to be greeted by a recorded message that they were (under such pressure?) unable to answer telephone calls but would read any letters.

Quis custodiet? I prefer to look to *The Times*. I am contacting one of the local independents.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN STEVENSON,
1, Hales Meadow,
Harpenden,
Hertfordshire.

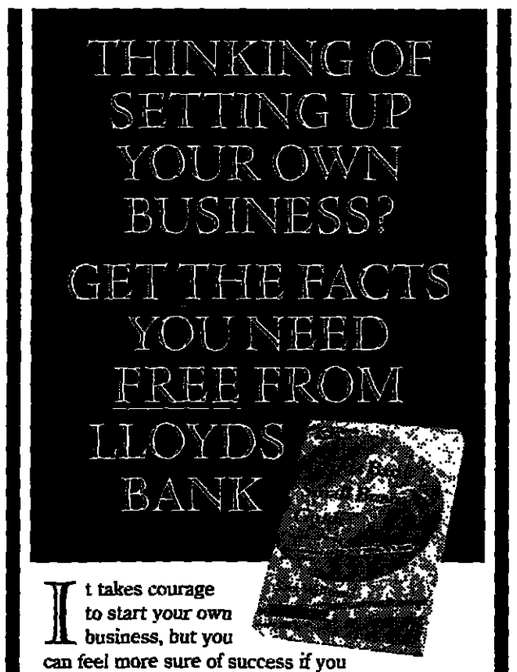
How is it known that the majority of phone calls are answered?

From Mr Christopher Power

Sir, It is good to hear from the managing director of British Gas ("British Gas defends the quality of a phone service under pressure", September 26) that its telephone system has not collapsed and particularly that "the majority of customer calls are being answered".

As a matter of interest, how does he know?

Yours faithfully,
CHRISTOPHER POWER,
Swanmore Lodge,
Upper Swanmore,
Southampton, Hants.



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Spain gets record austerity budget

FROM TUNKU VARADARAJAN IN MADRID

THE most austere budget in Spain's history was presented before parliament yesterday by Rodrigo Rato, the Minister for the Economy.

The budget, described by aides as reflecting a "Maastricht or bust" philosophy, is the first presented by the new conservative Government of José Maria Aznar.

The objective of the budeget is to enable Spain to be in the European Monetary Union (EMU) from its projected inception in January 1999. To that end, the Government has sought to cut the public deficit and debt, reduce unemployment and inflation, and stimulate growth.

To achieve these targets, Señor Rato has proposed a £750 million cut in public spending, the introduction of taxes for the use of many public services, a reduction in subsidies for State enterprises, a freeze in public sector employment and, most controversially, a wage freeze for all public sector employees.

The wage freeze has earned the Government the anger of public sector unions, who have threatened general strikes, boycots of consumer goods by union members and their families, and other forms of "non-co-operation". Yet Spain's chances of meeting the monetary union deadline are, realistically, rather slim.

In a recent study by the economic database company Consensus Forecast, only one in 20 experts consulted believed that Spain would be in the first wave of EMU.The public debt and deficit are seen by most as insuperable obstacles. Only Italy, of the larger European economies, fares worse.

ALAN WELLER



Looking ahead: Michael Bennett, chairman, and Maurice Bennett, deputy chairman, aim to expand Oasis at home and abroad

Britannia acquires £1.1bn Citibank mortgage book

BY CAROLINE MERRELL

BRITANNIA Building Society has bought Citibank's £1.1 billion mortgage book, which holds loans on behalf of 30,000 borrowers.

The mortgage assets will be held through a subsidiary of the building society and will not be included on its balance sheet. The mortgages themselves will continue to be administered by Citibank for the time being, but Britannia will eventually take over the administration.

Britannia said that it had no plans to reduce the variable interest rate on the loans from its present level of 7.49 per cent. The society offers a variable interest rate of 6.99 per cent and currently has 300,000 borrowers.

John Heaps, Britannia's chief executive, said: "The book will provide us with an additional customer base. We will be maintaining the terms and conditions that they have chosen." The book comprises fixed-rate schemes and loans where the advance was a very high percentage of the purchase price.

Citibank has sold the loans portfolio because it wants to concentrate on a global banking strategy. Meredith Williams , UK executive director of Citibank Consumer Bank, said: "We want to lend to those who have a wider relationship with the bank as opposed to stand-alone mortgage-only customers."

Last year, Britannia, a society committed to remaining mutual, bought the £450 million mortgage portfolio of Lloyds Bowmaker, part of the Lloyds Abbey Life group. It said yesterday that it would be interested in buying more mortgage books, if the price was right.

Many building societies try to increase their assets by buying up mortgage portfolios, rather than going through the expense of trying to take on new borrowers. Last year, Birmingham Midshires, the UK's eleventh ranked by asset size, bought mortgage books from Crédit Agricole, Western Trust and Hypo-Bank.

Edinburgh holds payout

BY ROBERT MILLER

EDINBURGH Fund Managers, the international fund management house, has held its interim dividend at 8p a share after reporting pre-tax profits of £3.43 million. The half-year payout will be made on November 1.

Edinburgh, the UK's third-largest investment trust manager, said that the results for the six months to July 31 were distorted by £5.41 million of exceptional expenses. These were largely as a result of Edinburgh's takeover of Dunedin, a rival Scottish fund manager, in March. Staff numbers in the integrated group have fallen from 271 to 193, and Dunedin's old offices in Edinburgh and Chicago have been closed. The Dunedin acquisition, which more than doubled Edinburgh's funds under management to £7.4 billion, will inevitably impact on the group's full-year results, Edinburgh said.

Earnings per share, excluding exceptional items, fell to 21.2p compared with 23.1p in the same period last year.

Oasis plans new stores as profits jump 40%

BY ALASDAIR MURRAY

OASIS STORES, the high street fashion retailer, yesterday unveiled a 40 per cent increase in half-year profits to £5.2 million, while Michael Bennett, chairman, described the company's current prospects as "encouraging".

Sales during the first two months of this year continued to run ahead of last year, although the company admitted that it had yet to realise the full benefits of its store-opening programme.

During the first six months of the year, like-for-like sales increased 10 per cent while total sales, including new stores, rose 32 per cent to £33 million.

Gross margins were maintained at 55.1 per cent and a maiden interim dividend of 2.1p is payable on November 6. Oasis opened six new stores and four concessions in the UK during the first six months of the year and said that it aims to open two more stores and six new concessions during the second half of the year.

Revenue from overseas licences increased from 1 to 3 per cent of total turnover. The company said that following the success of its first two German franchises it was seeking to open seven new concessions over the next few months and would also experiment with a stand-alone store.

The results were largely in line with expectations, but shares in the company slumped 13p to close at 393p because of profit-taking in the market.

Mr Bennett said that in the medium term he would like to open a total of 50 new stores in both the UK and abroad. The company said it was also extending the Oasis product range with swimwear gradually being rolled out in UK stores.

The total licensing income from overseas operations rose from £79,000 to £237,000. A second store was also opened in Abu Dhabi, with a further shop planned for Saudia Arabia.

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Healthcall weaker in 'turbulent' market

HEALTHCALL, the medical services providers, saw a sharp fall in first-half profits with no immediate prospect of improvement. Pre-tax profits for the six months to June 30 fell from £3.9 million to £2.9 million. Earnings per share dropped from 4.46p to 3.29p and the interim dividend remained unchanged at 1.65p. Maurice Henchey, the chief executive, said: "The results reflect increased turbulence in the market for our duty doctor services arising from rapidly changing methods of service delivery and increased competition from publicly subsidised services."

Mr Henchey expects the turbulence will continue into next year before a new pattern of service is established. The share price yesterday dropped from 81½p to 72½p. The dividend registration date is October 15 with payment on November 11.

Fiscal may expand

FISCAL, the property company which lets exclusively to the Government, is in talks which may lead to expansion into non-property services under the Private Finance Initiative (PFI), taking it into services such as cleaning, air conditioning and security. In the six months to June 30, Fiscal bought three investment properties for £11.7 million. Turnover rose by 16 per cent, to £3.41 million. With lower operating costs, taxable profits rose 39 per cent, to £1.12 million. A 0.72p interim (0.65p) will be paid on November 15.

Yeoman set for market

SATELLITE-RESPONSIVE map-reading mice are coming to the market via the flotation of Yeoman, which hopes to raise £4 million on the Alternative Investment Market later this year. Its product uses satellite guidance to pinpoint the user's position on a conventional paper map. The device is guided by the US government's global positioning system, a constellation of navigational satellites that emit a pulse allowing receivers to plot a map position. The company says it already has 5 per cent of the UK maritime market.

Geo aims for £10m

GEO INTERACTIVE MEDIA, an Internet software company started in 1994 by former members of the high-technology unit of the Israel Defence Forces, is to float this autumn on the Alternative Investment Market. Geo intends to raise £10 million or more by selling about 10 per cent of the shares to institutional investors through Panmure Gordon, the underwriter. The company's main product, Emblaze, uses a proprietary compression technology to allow real-time delivery of animation, sound and video using standard phone lines.

Mapeley names backers

MAPELEY HOLDINGS, one of the final six contenders for the project to buy and manage the Department of Social Security's estate property, yesterday revealed the names behind the partnership. The DSS had set a deadline of noon for bids. Mapeley's 11 backers include Herbert Smith, the UK law firm, EM Warburg Pincus, the American venture banking firm, NationsBank, the US bank, Bankers Trust, a wholesale financial institution, and Argent Group, the UK property and development company.



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مكبر من الاصل

Modest gains in thin trading

TRADING PERIOD: *Settlement takes place five business days after the day of trade. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.*

ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

1996 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
556	419	Allied Domecq	449	-4	6.6	17.0
645	477	Bairnes (HP)	592½	-4	3.4	16.5
131	93½	Bass Sainsbury	94		6.6	20.3
775	615	Glenmorangie A	755	-20	2.0	19.3
491½	411	Highland Distl	476½	-1	4.0	20.2
483	435	Robertsons	457½	-3	4.2	14.1
378	315	Highland Distl	347½		2.9	16.2
603	277½	Matthew Clark	337½	-19	6.9	16.1
141	93	Mayden Wt	116	-3½	4.8	10.6
2812½	1606½	SA Breweries	1650		2.1	

BANKS

3710½	2741½	Abn AMRO	3534½	+20½	3.8	12.5
663	505	Abbey Nat	593½	-½	4.5	11.8
386	319	Alliard Iveh	377½	-3	4.8	10.8
366	285	Aus New Z	366	+5½	5.1	9.0
5443½	3843½	Bank Americart	5184½			
316	227½	Bank Scotland	247½	-1	3.5	10.4
955½	683	Barclays	939½	+13	3.7	10.3
505	413	Bk of Ireland	503½	-1½	3.9	11.5
482	379	Cabot Banks	387½	-2½	3.7	17.5
5698½	4031½	Citicorp	5662½			
393	307½	Close Bros	308½	-13½	4.1	12.4
£157½	£131½	Commercial	£145½	+3½	3.5	
1350	1068½	Dbs Ncb Fun Y1	1078½	-3½	0.5	
3413½	2950½	Deutsche Bk	3018½		2.5	
806½	595½	Espirito Santo	662½		4.6	10.8
1507	1177½	Fuji Bank Y	1247½	-4½	0.4	
472	314	Gerrard Nat	314		9.2	9.9
396	293	Hambros	296	-4	3.6	
1229½	937	HSBC	1215½	-4½	3.5	11.6
1200	930	HSBC HK1	1199½	-6½	3.9	11.4
457½	386	Irish Perm	457½		3.1	12.5
177	143	King Shaxson	162½		6.9	14.1
456	405	Lloyds	456½		5.4	16.5
401	294½	Lloyds TSB	378	+1½	4.9	13.6
653	566	Nat Asst Bk	624	-½	7.0	8.8
811	665	Nat Westl	679	+1	4.9	9.7
66	49½	Nbnt Scotland	54		2.4	19.6
596	464	Rbl Bk Scot	488	-2½	4.3	10.6
1462½	1185	Schroders	1382½		1.6	15.7
1132½	880	Schroders N/V	1097½		2.0	13.5
134	98½	Singer & Friedl	121		4.4	8.9
729½	547	Standard Chartrd	696½	+7½	3.2	13.6
715½	657	Union	709½		3.4	11.8
£174½	£131½	Wells Fargo	£164½		2.6	
331	264	Westpac	331	+½	4.3	10.2
360	268	Wirtbelt	345		4.5	17.3

BREWERIES, PUBS & REST

80	36	Abrdn Silk Hld	70			59
387	263	Accsl Hldgs	317½			12.0
8461½	7030	Bass	7779½	-5½	3.7	16.5
70	40	Bfk for the Bst	56½		5.8	17.1
177	161	Burtonwd Brn	165		4.2	14.9
1569½	852	City Centric Rest	1326		1.0	29.7
492	400	Compass Gp	459		1.8	26.6
366	190	Dimitrios Pz A/C	350		0.6	34.4
540	413	Fstl Sth A'	447½		2.6	15.3
636	546	Greenalls Gp	569½	-3	3.2	13.5
671	567½	Greene King	641	-2½	3.0	16.0
1060	790	Grosvenor Rest	1029½		1.8	20.5
559	304	Gaspe Chez Gx	547½	+6	1.5	
357	296½	Hardy Hanan	297		4.3	11.1
3475	2887½	Hdn /	2887½	-112½	2.5	15.2
45	45	Inn Business	68	-½	1.0	32.1
355	308	Marchwd	324½		2.4	14.7
353½	275	Morlsn Thop	296		3.1	12.1
673	535	Morland	600		2.5	18.2
154	118	My Kinds Town	145	-½	2.6	
6	4	Paramount	5		4.8	9.6
175	123	Pelican Gp	172½		1.7	23.6
477½	217	Pizza Express	476½	+3	0.7	
438	345	Ramsdens (H)	382½	-17½	1.6	41.0
2571	1387	Regent Inns	2389½	-11½		
601	501	Scott & Nsn	570½	-3½	3.6	23.1
365	186	Tom Cobleigh	237½		1.4	20.7
313	256½	Vaux Group	263	-8	4.9	13.6
1058	640	Wolverhampton 10	1060	+10	1.1	
759	672	Whitbread	698½	-3½	3.9	15.1
682	578	Wolverhmpton D	621		3.2	14.1
697	597	Yates Grp	635½		3.2	26.8
650	455	Young A	625	-10	3.0	25.1

BUILDING & CONSTRUCT

13	7½	AAF Inds	7½			
2100	135	Ashtenr	170		4.2	
296	212½	Allied	280	-½	3.0	18.9
121	87½	Amec	105	+½	3.6	17.4
270	111	Amey1	352½		2.7	22.3
495	253	Andrews Sykes	445	-12½	1.5	9.6
2720	1750	Ashtead	2615	-9	1.8	23.5
54	36	Avencroft	44		3.6	
34½	24	Bailey (Ben) Conf	31		4.2	12.5
56	34	Barcon	51½		1.7	
281	219	Barratt Devs	270	+1	3.9	
213	166	Beazer Homes	186		4.1	15.6
298	249	Bellway	341½	-1	2.9	17.0
21	14½	Bellworth	18	-½		
630	483	Berkeley Gp	602½	-4	1.8	17.3
253	193	Bett Bros	193½		4.1	8.9
250	176	Bovis (Henry)	229		4.1	8.9
133	91	Brandon Hire	130½		2.5	16.6
38	19	Brunswick Gp	27½		7.3	
51	31	Br Bldg & Eng	40			
197	104	Bryant	193	-½	4.7	
108	69	CALA1	102½		4.1	
20	10	Campbell S Asn P	10½			8.3
63½	37	Clarke T	63½		6.7	
103	39	Costain	55½			
81	51	Countrywide	72½		4.8	
55	34½	Crest Nicholson	74		2.4	19.6
88	65½	Crossmn1	74½		6.5	12.7
209	118	Eve Group	142½	+2½	0.9	
46	26	Galliard	19		6.8	41.7
967½	752	Gleeson (M5)	865		2.2	16.0
31	22½	Green (Ernst)	42½		3.0	
379	265	Hanstock Exp	370		9.2	27.4
163	119	Hawden-Stuart	130½	-5	2.8	14.4
102	76	Higgs & Hill	77		4.1	
215	175	Hunsd Hldgs	175½		5.7	16.1
109	22	Jarvis	84½	-1		39.9
186	128	Kellcrt	183½	-2	3.0	15.2
335	244½	Lend Ldrt	254	+½	4.4	
117	97	Long & Kis Cv Pf	104½		7.2	
21	9½	Lovell (J)	20½		3.9	
218	191	Maunders (J)	193½		3.7	12.1
197	126	McAlpine (A)	150		5.8	
101	66	McCarthy & S	98½	-½	2.2	13.5
193½	81	Morgan Sindall	171½		2.9	16.9
1990	1600	Morgan Grn Cons	1977½	+12	2.7	19.0
96	53½	Mowlem Ul	94		2.7	15.1
242	173	Persimmon	208½		5.7	22.1
115	85	Pochin	115	+6	6.8	
345	97	Pwerlng	129	-1½	3.7	27.4
10	10	Powrmtc Ind	15			
152	113	Redrow	132½		3.1	
66	45	Secure Picture	46		2.7	24.1
430	258	Sheriff Hldgs	266		3.3	11.2
88	68	Shorcrft	73		7.2	9.2
32	23	Speedfax	30½		1.0	20.5
215	115	Tay Homes	118½	-2	2.4	10.8
182	115	Taylor Woodrow	169	+1	2.2	17.4
503	408	Tilbury Douglas	499	+3½	5.5	14.9
19½	10½	Tmr Group	13½	+½		
103	74	Wimpeyint	78		6.5	
21	15	Westhomes	11½		5.0	70.4
53	36	Ward Hldgs	41½		3.0	11.1
313½	170	Westbury	232½	-½	9.3	20.9
9	5½	Wigmore	9½			
207	152	Wilcon (Cl)	153½		3.7	21.3
54	34	Wilson Bowdn	44½	+1	2.9	30.9
160	125	Wimpey Gl	129½		5.4	

BUILDING MATERIALS

16	9½	Aldrgtnhm#	6	-1	3.2	18.5
2600	2042	BPB Ind	374		3.4	20.0
97	69	Buggedge Bk	114½		7.2	14.9
51	31	Bardon1	34½			
53	37½	Bbb Bros	37½	-½		
1515	1025	Blue Circle#	1396½	-11½	4.1	27.6
135	95	Brendon Plc	95		6.5	15.5
118	88	Br Uralgmg	123½		5.8	17.4
1757	1292	CRH	1649	-4½	1.6	17.4
1½	1	Celebrmat Hldg1	1½		6.2	11.4
1½	1	Cooper	1½		4.8	27.5
1½	1	Cornelius	2½			
108	76	Cranbrn Bl	124½	-1	7.3	
113	83	Chrchlsh Gpt	92½		4.2	68.7
1½	1	Dyson A&Jnt	1½		2.6	17.5
1½	1	Dyson A1	1½		5.6	7.9
1½	1	Edwrd	2½			
1½	1	Fibre	1½			15.1
1½	1	Gibbs & Dandy†	84		5.5	8.6
1½	1	Graham Grp	133	+1	1.5	25.0
1½	1	Hallstad (J)	343½		3.2	14.8
1½	1	Hepworth	293	+4	4.8	12.3
1½	1	Hewden	62½		5.0	14.2
1½	1	Hemnd Mrtnt	265		7.0	11.8
1½	1	Hrbrck	58	-½	4.4	12.7
1½	1	Johnson	465		3.0	17.7
1½	1	Lilleshall	130		8.9	10.9
1½	1	Marley	130½		4.5	17.1
1½	1	Marshall-1	139½	-½	4.7	11.1
1½	1	Meyer Int	406½		3.5	34.9
1½	1	Newman Tstal	71½		7.7	20.0
1½	1	Nmdsmn	83½			9.2
1½	1	Phoenix Timber	98		6.5	15.5
1½	1	Pilkington	189½	+½	3.3	11.1
1½	1	Polypipe	195½		4.1	19.8
1½	1	RMC Gp	1143½	+1½	4.6	18.2
1½	1	Ruberoid	456	-8½	6.6	11.4
1½	1	Rmsdn	69		6.8	41.7
1½	1	Rotbrmd	100	+2½	7.8	15.1
1½	1	Ruskin Group†	101½		4.9	8.4
1½	1	Rugby Group†	107½		3.3	18.9
1½	1	Sandtft Bldg	255	+8	5.5	8.0
1½	1	Sanyo	1½			
1½	1	Sharpe & Fisher	209½		3.2	18.8
1½	1	Sheg Hem	213½	-2	3.6	14.3
1½	1	Smallbone Philips	213½		7.7	
1½	1	Tarmac	96½	+½	6.3	10.9
1½	1	Tilcon	100		6.0	10.9
1½	1	Tomkins	398	-1	2.6	20.0
1½	1	Travis Perkins	451½	+2½	2.6	13.8
1½	1	Tubs	376		4.1	16.8
1½	1	Wellmbry	486	-2	2.6	

CHEMICALS

1½	1½	Abright & Wil	191½	-2½	4.3	16.2
1½	1½	Allied Colloids	140	-2	3.6	16.0
1½	1½	Amber Ind	150		1.9	22.0
1½	1½	Amerchy Gp†	93½		4.3	
1½	1½	BASF DM	2006½	-75	2.9	
1½	1½	BOC	975½	-4½	3.6	15.6
1½	1½	BTP	310½		3.2	17.1
1½	1½	Bayer (Nmbg)	2742½	-Pk	2.7	
1½	1½	Bayer Chem.	101		3.0	29.8
1½	1½	Br Vita	242		3.9	29.9
1½	1½	Canning (W)	368½			
1½	1½	Cir Technology	1½			
1½	1½	Courtaulds	361½	+½	3.1	24.0
1½	1½	Croda	467½	-4½	3.2	17.4
1½	1½	Dobbs	183½		3.2	15.0
1½	1½	Dow Chem	1½		4.4	14.7
1½	1½	Elem & Eastwell	1½			
1½	1½	Elem Colour	1½		3.2	7.8
1½	1½	Gelbsnn	1½			
1½	1½	Hardy	1½			
1½	1½	Hecht	1½		2.5	19.5
1½	1½	Holliday Chem	1½		4.5	20.4
1½	1½	ICI	1½	-15	4.5	11.0
1½	1½	Imperial▼	1½			
1½	1½	Kemi	1½		3.9	40.6
1½	1½	Lporte	1½		4.0	12.7
1½	1½	Manfield	1½		2.5	11.6
1½	1½	Marlwrt	1½		2.8	15.5
1½	1½	Marshall	1½		2.1	19.6
1½	1½	Portsm	1½	-1	3.1	15.3
1½	1½	Rotblay	1½		3.8	17.3
1½	1½	Scapa Gp	1½		3.8	17.6
1½	1½	Synthite	1½		3.8	19.6
1½	1½	Tate & Lyle	1½		4.2	13.6
1½	1½	Thorntn	1½		3.7	20.7
1½	1½	Victrex	1½		1.2	46.2
1½	1½	Vitec	1½		3.8	16.5
1½	1½	Yule Catto	1½		3.7	20.7

DISTRIBUTORS

1½	1½	ABI Ltd	1½		5.9	11.2
1½	1½	Adam & Harris	1½		6.7	6.6
1½	1½	Alexandr	1½		3.1	9.7
1½	1½	Appleyard	1½			
1½	1½	Bss Br Dstr	1½		4.3	16.6
1½	1½	BSS Group	1½		4.3	15.0
1½	1½	Bunzl	1½		6.7	16.0
1½	1½	Electrng Power	1½		4.4	14.4
1½	1½	Bogod A	1½			

DIVERSIFIED INDUSTRIALS

1½	1½	Anglo Ind	1½			
388	288	Analgsds	360		1.8	13.9
1056	804	Bmnm Hld	1018½		3.1	17.8
340	229	BTR	2707½	-8½	4.4	20.2
1½	1½	Burtonwd Brn	1½		4.2	14.9
224	183	Bunzlnd Intl	119	+½	3.7	8.6
134	108	Bibby Un	127		5.9	9.2
1½	1½	Brbrry Ins	1½			
1½	1½	Chrmng	1½		7.9	
1½	1½	Chrtr Consol	1½		3.1	11.7
1½	1½	Cookson	1½		3.6	13.5
1½	1½	DCC	1½		3.1	10.9
1½	1½	Dampsn Hdg.A	1½		6.0	13.6
1½	1½	Dawsonlnt	1½		6.4	9.6
1½	1½	Dixons	1½		6.4	15.1
1½	1½	Forward Tech	1½		6.1	8.2
1½	1½	GEC†	1½		4.8	18.0
1½	1½	Guardpl	1½		6.5	13.1
1½	1½	Hutch Whamp	1½		4.6	13.4
1½	1½	Jardine Math	1½		4.0	
1½	1½	Lambert	1½		4.5	20.3
1½	1½	Lonrho	1½		4.5	15.4
1½	1½	McLeod Russel	1½		4.8	10.1
1½	1½	Powell Duffryn	1½		7.1	8.9
1½	1½	Ropner	1½		10.1	
1½	1½	Slnvr Darby	1½		2.8	
1½	1½	Staveley	1½		4.9	12.2
1½	1½	Sutcr	1½		5.7	13.6
1½	1½	TT Group†	1½		4.5	14.8
1½	1½	Tomkinsn	1½		3.7	13.3
1½	1½	Wagon Indstrys	1½		4.9	13.6
1½	1½	Wassall	1½		2.4	18.4
1½	1½	Whitecroft	1½		3.8	17.3
1½	1½	Williams Hldgs†	1½		5.2	15.5

ELECTRONIC & ELECT

562	528½	Acal	531½		2.8	17.7
311	185	Acorn Comp	200	-15½		
333	163½	Advanstr	318	-4	0.8	32.5
218½	134	Autotrnd	143	-½	2.4	
357	33	Arlantl	54½	-½	2.1	15.3
164½	118	Aston	147	+1	1.4	18.3
782	469	Aston	701	-11½	0.7	23.2
352	270	BICC.a	295	-1	5.4	
323	175	Bicc Hunterf	182½		7.3	8.4
558	445	Bkhse	529		2.4	14.6
464	363	Bowthorpe†	413	+½	2.8	18.2
244	134	Bulgin (AF) 'A'	134		4.1	5.6
133	99½	Chl. Micro	115½		6.6	13.0
38	34	Cmmnel Hldgs	37½	-2	5.3	10.6
38	29½	Cmtrnds	36		1.6	19.9
83	66	Clayhithe	72½		5.5	8.0
58	25½	Cmp Elect	34			
962	629	Crichtnsy	875	-2½	1.6	25.8
848	368	Dwks Bt Sys.	822½		0.4	52.0
484	229	Dialight	411½	-½	4.9	9.7
450	340	Domtnx	377½		3.4	48.1
85	64	Downing Mdlst	72		4.7	
370	154	Dracht'r	309	-2	5.6	39.5
38439½	26185½	Electrcm 'B'	35376½	+6½	3.4	8.9
385	301½	Emess	385	-2½	3.4	19.7
16344½	1126	Emisson 'B'	1581½	-40½	1.1	29.4
92	65	Eurocopy	68½		4.4	12.3
645	515	Eurotherm	554		1.9	20.7
687½	533	Fairey Group	657½	-7½	1.8	22.8
197	178½	Filtronic Comn	181	-1	0.2	29.0
274	155	Forward Tech	259		1.9	24.5
100	55½	Forward Tech	98	-1	6.1	8.2
398	341	GEC†	369½		4.8	18.0
137	113	Gecdptyl	125	-½	6.6	22.3
1142½	961	Gen Combust.	1109½		3.6	16.1
432	6½	Gnsr	16		1.6	234
385½	307½	Gresham Mtr	380½		4.0	
1707½	1270	Gresham 'B'	1707½		4.5	20.3
191	164	Mcleod Russel	176½	-½	4.5	15.4
478	368	Powell Duffryn	448½	-1	7.1	8.9
146	102	Ropner	102½		10.1	
200	130	Holdens Tech	178½		4.2	16.6
478	153	ISA Intl	190½	+½	1.7	17.3
316	231	Isotechnol	271½	-6½	3.8	13.2
78	33	Jacks (Wilmot	74½			20.8
297	169	Kwik-Fit	227½	-4	2.8	19.3
380	269	Lex Service	297½	-6	2.8	18.9
156	115	Lookers	115½	-4½	4.5	6.8
17	10½	Mallaya Grp	11¼		7.2	12.3
545	440	Marlborough	485	-6	2.6	14.7
349	230	Marshall Int	330		2.4	16.1
47	31	Mdlsbrsch	40½		0.7	
565	440	Northern	490	-6	2.0	17.3
1½	1½	Northn Electr	1½		1.4	10.7
1½	1½	Oxford Instrs	1½		1.9	11.9
1½	1½	Oxley	1½		3.9	38.3
1½	1½	Parkdale (I)	1½		2.8	47.8
1½	1½	Parkmead Asso	1½		5.7	14.8
1½	1½	Pentamatic	1½			
1½	1½	Pilkington	1½		3.3	11.1
1½	1½	Racal Elec	1½		2.5	19.9
1½	1½	Redstone	1½		3.3	18.6
1½	1½	Relokat	1½		2.7	
1½	1½	Renishaw	1½		2.2	
1½	1½	Redbear	1½			
1½	1½	Rotronic	1½		3.2	12.3
1½	1½	Servomex	1½		2.5	20.5
1½	1½	Silverstones	1½		1.2	20.3
1½	1½	Spamilacs D	1½			
1½	1½	TDS Casualtst	1½			33.3
1½	1½	Tadpole Tech	1½		1.9	16.9
1½	1½	Telcnetix	1½		4.9	16.9
1½	1½	Telspec	1½		3.2	32.1
1½	1½	Total Systems	1½		4.6	19.7
1½	1½	Tunstall	1½		1.8	17.2
1½	1½	Vantis	1½		0.7	
1½	1½	Vinten	1½		3.8	17.5
1½	1½	Vitec	1½		3.8	16.5
1½	1½	Vodafone	1½		0.5	34.0
1½	1½	Wassall	1½		2.4	18.4
1½	1½	Wolfson Micro	1½		3.8	13.9
1½	1½	Xaar	1½		1.2	29.5
1½	1½	Zetex	1½		3.5	11.4

ENGINEERING

363	277	ABM	338		2.1	17.5
98½	58	AFW	88		3.1	
98	58	ASW	88	-1½	3.6	
457	370	Aumscot	386	-2	3.5	15.2
175	107	Alvis	119		2.4	9.0
201	164½	Ash & Lacy	164½		5.1	13.4
838	638	Atlas Elektr	777½	-15	3.8	15.5
148	105½	Avocaire Metal†	108½		5.7	9.4
464	363	Bowthorpe†	413	+½	2.8	18.2
163	120½	Brit	138	+½	6.5	11.6
145	52½	Babcock	54½	-8½	5.5	
8	6	Bailey (CH)	7½			
98	58	Barnes (Charles)	130½	-1½	2.5	19.2
38	24	Beaufort	36½		2.1	9.4
88	38	Benson Group	49½			
186	88	Bibby	91		7.3	
6500	4600	Bodycote	4900		1.2	25.4
48	35½	Booth Indl	42½	+½	4.1	11.2
130	98	Bridon	103		5.6	
10667½	787	Br Aerospace†	10569½	+½	6.3	5.3
201	161	Br Steel	198	-1½	4.5	9.9
15½	11½	Brooke Tool	14½		3.5	10.9
38	28	Bralend	30½	-½	4.0	11.6
113	71½	Bullough	71½	-1½	9.6	
143	82	Burndlt(E)	82		10.8	16.5
315	222	Carclo Eng	265½		5.0	13.1
171	138	Castings	159½		2.3	15.8
158	140	Chamberlin Hld	147	-3	6.4	9.6
455	337	Chloride	338½	-6½	3.6	13.2
352½	286	Chrse Brewers	344	+6½	2.4	18.8
651	551	Cmbn	632½		1.9	
665	535	Cohen (A)	535	-20	2.9	6.6
1½	1½	Compsnnc	197½	+1	4.2	13.9
1½	1½	Cmsp (Wmn)	249½		4.6	
1½	1½	Cmsp Ind	202½		4.3	14.5
1½	1½	Dowd Brown	190		4.8	12.2
395	320	EIS	344		4.6	12.2
1½	1½	Elecs	11	+½	2.8	6.2
1½	1½	Elliott (B)	101½		3.7	10.1
1½	1½	Exsanel	101½		4.4	11.7
1½	1½	FKI	2042½		2.9	15.8
1½	1½	Fenner	193			
1½	1½	Ferrum	8			
1½	1½	Firth Hldgs	55			17.8
1½	1½	Firth Rixson	78½	+½	1.6	13.8
1½	1½	GB Inl	188½		4.2	13.0
1½	1½	Gamon Eng	188½		5.1	7.4
1½	1½	Glynwed	365½		4.4	15.7
1½	1½	Gngstone	14	-½	5.6	
1½	1½	Haden MacLm	99	+½	3.2	13.4
1½	1½	Hattersly	278½	+10	5.6	16.1
1½	1½	Hattersly	278½		3.6	16.1
1½	1½	Hall Engl	177		3.0	22.3
1½	1½	Halma	64		4.4	24.5
1½	1½	Hampson Ind	64			20.7
1½	1½	Hay (Norman)	28½			20.4
1½	1½	Headley	41½	+2	4.3	8.9
1½	1½	Hill & Smith	80½	-1	8.7	9.2
1½	1½	Hopkinsons	90		5.4	
1½	1½	Hse Gp	47		3.1	8.9
1½	1½	Howden	71		3.1	
1½	1½	Hunting	143½		3.8	19.6
1½	1½	Hall	396½	+2½	3.8	20.7
1½	1½	Johnson Matth	610	+1½	3.8	17.7
1½	1½	Jones Stephen	51½		6.5	9.1
1½	1½	Kalsby Ind	429	+2½	6.5	9.1
1½	1½	Kelchy Ind	205		3.1	11.4
1½	1½	Lancer	37½		2.2	15.8

THE TIMES UNIT TRUST INFORMATION SERVICE

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %

AIB UNIT TRUST MANAGERS LTD
01895 259 783
Gryphon Amer | 325.60 | 338.90 | + 0.20 | 0.14
Gryphon Equity | 282.40 | 293.40 | - 0.60 | 1.81
Gryphon Euro | 267.90 | 283.50† | - 2.00 | 0.57
Gryphon Eqst Bd | 133.30 | 138.10† | . | 3.55
Gryphon Gilt | 75.76 | 78.27† | + 0.10 | 6.14
Gryphon Japan | 170.30 | 180.20 | - 0.60 | .

AJA EQUITY & LAW UNIT TST MGRS
01203 553 231
General Acc | 875.60 | 718.80† | - 2.30 | 2.59
General Inc | 563.90 | 598.90† | - 2.00 | 2.58
UK Growth Acc | 462.00 | 491.50 | - 0.80 | 2.72
UK Growth Inc | 302.20 | 322.60 | - 0.70 | 2.72
Higher Inc Acc | 891.30 | 952.50 | - 4.10 | 4.23
Higher Inc Inc | 437.10 | 465.10 | - 2.20 | 4.23
Gilts/Fxd Int Acc | 212.60 | 224.80† | - 0.50 | 5.78
Gilts/Fxd Int Inc | 93.08 | 98.91† | - 0.25 | 5.78
Nth America | 386.60 | 410.70 | . | .
Europe | 361.90 | 384.70† | - 1.30 | 0.36
Brit Equity | 92.05 | 97.94 | + 0.80 | 2.80
Brit Fixtrists Acc | 114.90 | 121.30† | - 0.50 | 4.63
Brit Fixtrists Inc | 76.69 | 81.80† | - 0.33 | 4.63
Global Opps | 106.30 | 113.10 | . | .
Balanced Acc | 83.81 | 87.89 | - 0.18 | 2.75
Balanced Inc | 80.16 | 84.22 | - 0.17 | 2.75
Japan Acc | 46.10 | 48.05† | - 0.11 | .
Pac Basin Acc | 410.40 | 436.70 | + 3.50 | 0.88

ABBEY UNIT TST MGRS
0345 717 373
Gilts & Fixed Int | 130.40 | 138.40† | - 0.30 | 7.05
High Inc Equity | 186.90 | 198.60 | + 2.00 | 4.34
Worldwide Bond | 283.40 | 300.50† | + 1.80 | 4.90
American Growth | 384.10 | 410.70 | . | 0.30
Asian Pacific | 337.00 | 358.50 | + 7.50 | 0.04
Assets & Earnings | 317.50 | 337.20 | + 3.90 | 2.67
Euro Capital Acc | 168.00 | 178.00 | - 0.40 | 0.79
Extra Inc | 43.55 | 46.33† | - 0.03 | 7.74
General | 265.20 | 303.40† | - 0.20 | 2.89
Global Opps | 69.88 | 74.34 | - 0.06 | 0.54
Japan | 119.10 | 126.70 | - 0.30 | .
Managed Inc | 48.25 | 51.32† | - 0.06 | 4.98
Mediterfund | 173.00 | 184.00 | + 0.90 | 0.99
US Emerging Cos | 224.30 | 238.80 | + 0.10 | .
Ethical | 82.28 | 87.50 | - 0.17 | 2.43
International | 149.30 | 149.30 | + 0.20 | 0.29
Dividend & Growth | 68.23 | 72.58 | - 0.01 | 4.23
Global Gwth & Inc | 73.51 | 78.58 | + 0.08 | 2.33
Latin America | 65.67 | 69.86 | - 0.18 | .
Capital Reserve | 145.40 | 145.50 | - 0.10 | 4.81

ABERFORTH UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD
0131 220 0733
Uh Small Cos | 2366.00 | 2461.00 | . | .

ABTRUST UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD
0800 833 580
Amer Inc & Growth | 61.73 | 64.08 | - 0.02 | 0.15
Emerging Mkts | 74.34 | 78.43 | - 0.04 | 0.04
Europacific | 150.70 | 156.70 | - 0.70 | .
Exempt | 1110.00 | 1179.00 | + 5.00 | 1.58
Extra Income # | 46.06 | 49.31† | + 0.06 | 6.60
Far East Emrg Ecn | 136.00 | 142.80 | + 0.80 | 0.44
Fixed Interest # | 25.51 | 26.53† | - 0.05 | 8.95
Fixed Inv Tst | 154.30 | 161.90 | + 0.50 | 9.48
Japan | 182.50 | 189.70† | - 0.40 | .
Latin American | 69.72 | 63.40† | - 0.27 | 0.77
Pacific | 87.30 | 92.30 | - 0.44 | 0.38
Property Shars | 71.75 | 75.31 | + 0.19 | 3.33
UK Emerging Cos | 72.03 | 77.86 | + 0.16 | 1.24
UK Growth | 54.30 | 57.25 | - 0.07 | 2.05
Abtr World Port # | 63.48 | 65.98 | + 0.12 | 3.40
Ethical | 78.49 | 82.67 | + 0.02 | 2.16
Aberdeen Gilt Inc # | 50.74 | 50.78† | + 0.07 | 7.30

For AEGON see Matheson

AIRWAYS UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD
0171 256 5656
Recdil Property # | 98.20 | 105.40 | . | 5.30

ALLCHURCHES INV MGMT SVS LTD
01452 305 958
Amity Income | 91.30 | 96.87† | - 0.20 | 2.26
Income Builder Inc | 81.50 | 85.70 | - 0.32 | 4.23

ALLIED DUNBAR UNIT TSTS PLC
IFA dlg: 01793 610 366 Client dlg: 01793 514 514
Balanced Trusts
Growth & Income | 265.60 | 285.30† | + 0.50 | 3.04
Capital | 503.60 | 538.30† | - 5.90 | 1.17
Balanced | 836.20 | 893.80 | - 0.80 | 2.33
Accumulator | 1687.00 | 1717.00† | + 1.00 | 1.82
Income Trusts
American Income | 61.93 | 66.05† | + 0.11 | 2.42
High Income | 457.10 | 488.60† | - 0.10 | 3.87
Equity Income | 260.90 | 278.80 | + 0.10 | 3.98
High Yield | 262.60 | 302.00 | . | 3.98
Gold Securities | 34.62 | 36.54† | . | 3.29
International Trusts
Amer Spec Sits | 215.90 | 230.50† | + 1.10 | 0.05
European Growth | 53.98 | 57.50† | + 0.27 | 0.07
International | 191.30 | 204.40 | + 0.80 | 0.11
Japan | 204.60 | 218.70 | + 0.10 | .
Pacific | 419.60 | 448.50 | + 2.00 | .
Secs of America | 601.40 | 648.10 | + 2.00 | 0.12
Wande Asset Val | 57.02 | 60.95† | + 0.26 | 0.02
Specialist Trusts
Asset Value | 645.40 | 689.90 | + 1.10 | 1.98
Coal & Gilt | 49.78 | 53.12† | - 0.03 | 3.95
Smaller Cos | 210.90 | 225.40 | - 0.30 | 1.01
2nd Smaller Cos | 200.20 | 214.00† | - 0.30 | 0.86
Recovery | 171.00 | 182.70† | - 0.30 | 1.54
Wat Utils & City | 165.70 | 177.10† | - 0.50 | 4.18
Assoc Earnings | 428.10 | 457.60 | + 0.40 | 7.06
Technology | 235.00 | 251.20 | + 0.90 | .
UK Special Sits | 580.70 | 620.70† | - 0.80 | 1.01

B & C E UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD
01283 526 911
Capital Dist Fnds | 120.10 | 124.70 | . | 3.04
Fixedinc Perpl Fnds | 71.09 | 73.85 | - 0.08 | 1.44

BSI-THORNHILL UNIT TST MGRS LTD
0171 600 0033
Capital | 85.22 | 90.86 | + 0.49 | 1.30
International | 70.07 | 74.54 | . | .

BAILLIE GIFFORD & CO LTD
0131 222 4242
America | 351.10 | 374.50† | + 1.60 | .
Bond | 118.90 | 125.10 | . | 6.67
Brit Emrg Cos | 119.70 | 127.20 | - 0.30 | 1.77
Core & Gth # | 70.06 | 74.52† | - 0.14 | 5.25
Europe | 389.80 | 301.40 | - 1.40 | 0.57
Euro Small Cos | 126.00 | 133.80 | - 0.70 | 0.58
Income Gwth | + 369.70 | 385.30† | - 2.60 | 4.83
Japan | 318.50 | 338.40 | - 0.60 | .
Latin American | 85.11 | 91.61 | + 0.03 | 0.75
Pacific | 116.00 | 123.40 | + 0.50 | 0.98
Uk Smlr Cos | 60.27 | 64.12 | - 0.09 | 1.25
Japan Fd | 862.50 | 881.00 | - 1.80 | .
Mngd Fd | 206.80 | 219.80 | - 0.10 | 2.74

BANK OF IRELAND FUND MGRS LTD
0171 489 8673
Brit & Oseas | 357.70 | 397.40 | . | 0.89
Capital Gwth | 130.50 | 138.00 | . | 2.40
Wrldw Opps | 224.60 | 237.60 | . | 0.86

BARCLAYS UNICORN LTD
01481 722 4000
Balanced Trusts
Bal Inc Fd Inc | 435.30 | 456.10 | - 0.30 | 2.37
European Bd Inc | 97.56 | 101.00 | + 0.10 | 6.68
Exempt | 83.75 | 89.29 | - 0.12 | 2.81
500 | 512.80 | 560.20† | + 0.10 | 2.36
General | 326.60 | 350.20† | - 0.70 | 2.52
Property | 245.40 | 263.30 | . | 2.34
Trustee | 227.80 | 243.80 | - 0.20 | 2.34
Income Trusts
Cash Inc | 100.00 | 100.00† | - 1.00 | 5.10
Distribution (5) # | 113.00 | 113.60† | . | 6.06
Fixed Int Inc # | 100.00 | 104.00 | . | 7.74
Gilt & Fxd Int | 58.45 | 62.50† | + 0.07 | 7.86
Income # | 589.00 | 626.90 | - 1.30 | 4.61
Income Builder # | 68.92 | 73.51† | - 0.13 | 5.36
Int Income | 71.61 | 76.18 | - 0.19 | 2.63
Growth Trusts - UK
Capital | 143.00 | 152.60† | - 0.20 | 2.01
FTSE 100 | 107.00 | 107.80 | - 0.20 | 2.63
Leisure | 178.40 | 190.80 | - 0.40 | 0.74
Recovery | 466.40 | 531.00 | - 1.90 | 2.66
Small Cos Inc | 59.08 | 63.35 | + 0.16 | 1.53
Special Sits | 398.50 | 425.30 | + 0.30 | 1.32
Growth Trusts - Overseas
America | 174.60 | 185.40 | - 0.40 | 0.41
Far East Gwth Acc | 287.20 | 305.80 | - 0.40 | 2.04
Far East Gwth Inc | 171.80 | 182.90 | - 0.20 | 2.04
Euro Gwth Inc | 194.10 | 206.90† | - 0.50 | 0.44
- do- Accum | 211.10 | 224.20 | - 1.00 | 0.44
Japan | 152.00 | 160.90 | - 0.70 | .
- do- Accum | 153.70 | 162.70 | - 0.80 | .
Japan Spec Sits | 70.58 | 74.77 | - 0.51 | .
Worldwide | 201.20 | 213.60 | - 0.10 | 0.46

BARING FUND MANAGERS LTD
01171 214 1004
American Growth | 135.80 | 143.40 | - 0.50 | .
Amer Small Cos | 172.90 | 185.70 | + 1.30 | .
Convertibles | 39.78 | 64.11 | + 0.04 | 4.60
Eastern | 306.10 | 329.80 | + 1.10 | 1.86
Equity Income | 98.78 | 105.80 | - 0.10 | 4.20
European Growth | 363.50 | 388.60 | - 2.60 | 0.80
Europe | 360.30 | 384.60 | - 1.10 | 0.80
Gennun Growth | 89.33 | 94.72 | - 0.49 | 0.50
Global Bond | 71.59 | 75.25 | + 0.01 | 6.78
Global Growth | 149.20 | 158.60 | - 0.20 | 0.40
Japan Growth | 198.20 | 210.60 | - 0.10 | .
Japan Smaller | 162.10 | 171.90 | - 0.10 | .
Korea Fund | 68.37 | 68.80 | - 0.75 | .
Pacific | 146.70 | 156.90† | - 0.30 | 2.00
- do- Accum | 278.00 | 297.50 | - 0.50 | 2.00
UK Growth | 105.70 | 113.40 | + 0.10 | 2.80
UK Smaller Cos | 98.39 | 107.60 | . | 1.90
Select Managers | 90.22 | 98.78 | - 0.02 | 1.90

BLACKSTONE FRANKS UT MGRS LTD
0171 250 3000
Int Gwth Port Inc | 91.49 | 97.33 | . | .
Special Opptur Inc | 61.48 | 65.40† | . | .

BRITANNIA FUND MGRS LTD
01481 723 6020
Balanced Growth | 143.96 | 151.38† | + 0.70 | 1.25
- do- Accum | 166.53 | 178.27 | + 0.80 | 1.25
Smaller Cos | 155.58 | 164.63 | - 0.15 | 0.71
Higher Yield # | 56.81 | 60.12† | - 0.57 | 3.86
American Gth Inc | 103.18 | 109.19† | + 1.31 | .
European Growth | 167.51 | 177.35† | + 0.58 | 0.02
- do- Accum | 170.88 | 180.92 | + 0.61 | 0.02
Global Bond Inc # | 26.66 | 27.63 | - 0.06 | 5.67
Mngd Portfio Inc | 53.40 | 56.48† | + 0.01 | 1.45
- do- Accum | 58.42 | 58.62† | + 0.01 | 1.45
Int Spec Opps | 168.12 | 177.91 | + 0.07 | .
Pacific Gth | 148.10 | 156.72 | + 1.03 | 0.31
UK Dividend # | 97.86 | 102.21 | + 1.26 | 2.95
- do- Accum # | 103.84 | 109.89 | + 1.38 | 2.95
Japan | 59.59 | 63.06 | - 0.20 | .
300 & Fixed Int # | 100.49 | 104.14† | + 0.11 | 8.27

BURRAGE UNIT TST MGMT LTD
01371 480 7216
Short Dated Gilt | 66.68 | 67.54 | + 0.04 | 6.43

CIS UNIT MANAGERS LTD
0161 837 5060
Envsion | 192.40 | 202.00 | + 0.30 | 1.73
UK Growth | 212.00 | 222.60† | - 0.20 | 2.01
UK Income | 149.70 | 157.10 | - 0.30 | 4.41

CANADA LIFE MGMT (UK) LTD
01707 822 100
Can Gen Prop | 236.60 | 250.80 | . | 1.58
- do- Income Dist | 126.90 | 134.50 | . | 3.72
- do- Accum | 407.40 | 431.80 | . | 3.72
Gilt & Fxd Int | 41.83 | 43.12† | . | 6.31
Growth Units | 254.40 | 272.80† | - 0.03 | 2.07
Ideal | 175.10 | 184.20† | + 0.10 | 7.10
Ind Growth | 350.50 | 396.50 | - 0.30 | 0.18
North American | 262.30 | 278.30 | - 0.40 | 0.18
Far East | 312.10 | 333.80 | + 2.90 | 0.68
UK Smaller Cos | 223.30 | 238.60 | - 0.50 | 0.97
European | 97.47 | 100.30 | - 0.70 | 0.65
Income Growth | 47.21 | 50.12 | - 0.10 | .
High Income | 218.80 | 231.90 | - 0.60 | 4.31

CAPEL-CURE MYERS UT MGMT LTD
0161 831 7433 Enq 0161 831 7433 Dlg 0161 831 7455
American & Gen | 204.90 | 208.50† | + 0.10 | .
European Inc | 95.67 | 101.41† | - 0.41 | 0.48
Smaller Cos (4-11) | 108.30 | 116.20† | - 0.29 | 1.52
Income | 548.40 | 583.50† | + 2.00 | 1.79
Indexed & Growth # | 457.20 | 486.50 | - 3.50 | 3.89
- do- Accum # | 660.90 | 725.00 | - 3.70 | 3.89
Japan & East | 67.37 | 71.47 | - 0.40 | .
Asset Portfolio | [120.84] | [124.96] | - 26.90 | 1.82
- do- Accum | [148.73] | [153.67] | - 33.00 | 1.82
Special Sits | 127.80 | 136.00 | - 0.10 | 1.82
High Yield | [114.96] | [115.43] | - 6.00 | 4.29

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %

CAZENOVE UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD
0171 606 0708
Cazenove Portfolio | 102.40 | 109.25 | - 0.22 | 2.34
American Portfolio | 124.94 | 132.70 | + 0.71 | 0.86
European Portfolio | 135.68 | 144.30 | + 0.75 | 0.61
High Income | 92.07 | 92.20† | - 0.09 | 7.04
Jaguelin Portfolio | 69.14 | 73.43 | - 0.07 | .
Pacific Portfolio | 159.97 | 172.02 | + 1.27 | 1.38
UK Equity | 98.71 | 105.57 | - 0.25 | 3.01
UK Equity & Bd | 58.11 | 61.80 | - 0.21 | 6.19

CENT BD OF FIN OF CHURCH OF ENG
0171 599 1815
Inv Fund | 767.61 | 779.21 | . | 4.29
Fxd Int Sec | 154.32 | 154.94 | . | 9.53

COIF CHARITY FUNDS
0171 588 1815
Investment Inc | 770.44 | 782.08 | . | 4.26
Investment Acc | 836.12 | 835.66 | . | .
Fixed Int Inc | 127.67 | 128.39 | . | 9.83
Fixed Int Acc | 132.75 | 228.87 | . | .

CITY FINANCIAL UT MGRS LTD
0171 407 5566
Balanced Inc | 88.92 | 93.98 | . | 3.05
Beck Bis-Tech | 45.02 | 48.68 | - 0.27 | 1.52
Accm Ethical Tst | 169.41 | 158.90 | . | 0.43
City Fin Assets | 84.19 | 88.41 | . | .
City Fin Acoustics | 116.50 | 116.04 | . | .
City Fin Intl | 91.80 | 96.19 | . | 0.45
City Fin Japan | 148.11 | 155.53 | . | .
Friars Hse Cap | 326.11 | 348.93 | - 1.71 | 2.44
Friars Hse Inc | 265.90 | 219.04 | + 0.59 | 3.44
Buckley Wrld Gth | 144.80 | 153.49† | . | .
J Sist Inc/Gth Inc | 55.87 | 58.61 | . | 3.29
Shaw Utilities | 56.67 | 57.97 | - 0.78 | 6.29

CITY OF LONDON UNIT TST MGRS LTD
0171 711 0771 Assets: 01277 227 3000
Emerging Markets | 58.11 | 61.65† | + 0.34 | .

CLERICAL MEDICAL UT MGRS LTD
0345 772 233
American Gwth | 82.87 | 87.95 | - 0.16 | .
Exempt Gwth | 73.29 | 78.49 | + 0.56 | 0.42
Equity High Inc | 88.96 | 95.34† | - 0.25 | 4.13
- do- Accum | 126.76 | 136.00 | - 0.36 | 4.13
Extra Income Inc | 56.62 | 28.03 | + 0.02 | 7.49
Extra Income Acc | 29.66 | 30.39 | + 0.02 | 7.49
European Gwth | 63.58 | 67.46 | - 0.44 | 0.92
Evergreen | 31.94 | 34.16 | - 0.16 | .
General Equity | 104.31 | 110.67 | - 0.46 | 2.04
Japan Growth | 50.07 | 53.27 | - 0.05 | .
Pacific Gth | 84.94 | 89.09 | - 0.22 | 2.26
Pacific Opps | 38.68 | 41.15 | . | 1.49
Property Shars | 71.75 | 75.31 | + 0.19 | 3.33
UK Emerging Cos | 72.03 | 77.86 | + 0.16 | 1.24
UK Growth | 54.30 | 57.25 | - 0.07 | 2.05
Abtr World Port # | 63.48 | 65.98 | + 0.12 | 3.40
Ethical | 78.49 | 82.67 | + 0.02 | 2.16
Aberdeen Gilt Inc # | 50.74 | 50.78† | + 0.07 | 7.30

COMMERCIAL UNION FINANCIAL MGMT INTL LTD
0181 686 9818
PRESTIGE PORTFOLIO (FPT FUNDS)
Income Funds
Equity Inc | 193.60 | 201.67† | - 4.37 | 4.56
Long Gilt | 42.65 | 44.40† | - 0.80 | 6.36
Monthly Inc Plus | 49.21 | 51.26 | - 0.25 | 8.74
Preference Shars | 46.27 | 48.20† | - 1.13 | 8.09
Balanced Funds
High Yield | 140.72 | 146.58† | - 1.37 | 5.82
Managed Fund | 77.71 | 80.95† | - 1.17 | 2.65
UK Dividend Funds
Smaller Cos | 53.18 | 55.40 | - 0.14 | 1.71
- do- Accum | 62.86 | 65.46 | - 0.18 | 1.71
UK & General | 97.20 | 101.25† | - 1.69 | 2.55
- do- Accum | 127.67 | 133.20† | - 0.31 | 2.55
UK Growth | 165.98 | 204.15 | - 0.42 | 1.38
International Growth Funds
Europe Growth | 212.01 | 220.84 | - 1.49 | 0.85
Far Eastern Gth | 139.37 | 145.18 | + 0.38 | 0.02
Global Bond | 80.30 | 83.65† | - 2.51 | 5.93
Japan Growth | 114.04 | 118.79 | - 0.42 | .
North Amer Gth | 238.99 | 248.95 | - 0.72 | .
Oriental Growth | 85.92 | 89.50 | + 0.56 | 0.26
Worldwide Growth | 74.84 | 77.98 | - 0.25 | 0.10
OTHER CU TRUSTS (NON PPT FUNDS)
Deposit Fund | 91.42 | 91.42† | - 1.53 | 5.12
Homeowner Fund | 92.91 | 98.64 | - 0.06 | 1.53
Quilter Fund | 156.56 | 166.57 | - 0.29 | 1.87

CONSISTENT UNIT TST MGMT CO LTD
0171 407 5566
Consistent UT | 36.63 | 38.32† | . | 4.33

COOKE (HENRY) INV FUNDS LTD
0800 526 358
Growth | 180.80 | 192.30 | + 0.50 | 1.94
Income | 72.61 | 77.24 | - 0.12 | 4.69
European | 75.39 | 80.18 | - 0.06 | 1.18
Recovery | 190.70 | 202.90 | - 0.10 | 2.23

CO-OP PENSION FDS UT MGRS LTD
0171 393 8484
Equity Dist | 1003.60 | 1019.10 | . | 3.29

CREDIT SUISSE INV FDS (UK) LTD
01277 680 370
Fellowship Tst | 111.30 | 118.40† | . | 1.16
Income # | 291.50 | 310.10 | - 0.60 | 4.08
- do- Accum # | 763.10 | 811.80† | - 1.40 | 4.08
Smaller Cos | 237.90 | 253.00 | . | 0.85
Euro Income Inc | 295.30 | 314.10 | + 0.10 | 0.85
Euro Income Acc | 295.30 | 314.10 | . | 1.30
Gth Portfolio | 102.90 | 109.40† | . | 1.30
High Inc Port # | 84.08 | 89.44† | - 0.20 | 4.24

DIMENSIONAL TST MGMT LTD
0171 470 1634
Euro Small Cos | 1678.20 | 1724.60 | - 5.30 | .
Japan Small Cos | 1213.10 | 1233.70 | - 7.80 | 0.01
Uk Small Cos | 2213.56 | 2310.40 | - 4.30 | 2.86
US Small Cos | 2178.50 | 2252.60 | + 9.30 | 0.83

DISCRETIONARY UNIT FUND MGRS
0171 397 8619
Otec Inc | 229.70 | 241.80 | . | 3.10

EAGLE STAR UNIT MGRS LTD
01242 577 555
UK Balanced Inc | 171.90 | 182.80 | - 0.10 | 1.77
UK High Inc Inc | 179.80 | 191.20 | - 0.30 | 3.73
- do- Accum | 242.80 | 258.20 | - 0.40 | 3.73
UK Prel & Fl Inc | 59.42 | 63.04 | - 0.10 | 5.87
Government Opps | 98.61 | 104.90 | - 0.10 | 0.65
UK Smlr Cos # | 69.05 | 74.41 | + 0.25 | 0.80
Extra Income Inc | 48.52 | 52.04 | + 0.04 | 8.04

EDINBURGH UNIT TST MGRS LTD
0345 080 526
American | 175.80 | 186.00 | - 0.90 | 0.43
Convertibles # | 22.86 | 24.29† | - 0.01 | 5.76
Equity Income # | 143.20 | 152.20† | - 0.30 | 3.94
Eurofund | 63.76 | 67.46 | - 0.26 | 0.59
Exempt | 56.09 | 59.60† | + 0.18 | 1.51
Growth & Inc # | 269.90 | 286.80† | - 0.30 | 2.84
High Dist # | 181.00 | 192.30 | - 0.40 | 4.11
International | 445.10 | 472.90 | + 1.60 | 0.11
Ind Cap Inc | 106.10 | 113.30 | - 0.10 | 2.38
Latin American | 83.08 | 88.47† | - 0.02 | .
Pacific | 83.08 | 88.27 | - 0.43 | .
Prof High Inc | 22.26 | 23.65 | + 0.01 | 7.61
Tokyo | 225.50 | 239.70† | + 0.10 | .
UK Smaller Cos | 263.60 | 280.30 | + 2.90 | 1.07
Dunedin Unit Trusts
Dunedin Gwth | 339.30 | 358.50 | + 2.00 | 1.00
New Asia | 227.40 | 242.00 | . | 0.24
Japan Growth | 107.00 | 113.80 | . | .
Jap Smlr Co | 445.40 | 472.70 | - 1.30 | .
Nth Amer | 426.90 | 452.70 | + 1.10 | 0.65
Uk Inc & Gwth | 253.60 | 271.60 | - 0.50 | 2.73

ELY PLACE UNIT MGMT LTD
0171 242 0242
Gilt Dresser Dlgs | 118.46 | 126.58 | - 1.12 | 1.14
Growth Acc | 261.02 | 278.84 | + 3.66 | 0.25
Income | 614.14 | 656.83 | +11.45 | 5.96

ENDURANCE FUND MGMT LTD
0171 373 7351
Endurance Fd | 239.80 | 245.50 | . | 0.96

EQUITABLE UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD
01296 431 480
European | 92.35 | 97.21 | + 0.27 | 2.00
Ethical Tst | 48.93 | 51.51 | - 0.24 | 0.82
Far Eastern | 241.13 | 227.51 | + 1.28 | 1.59
High Income | 140.70 | 148.10 | - 0.23 | 4.99
UK Index Trckng | 51.11 | 53.80 | - 0.07 | 3.23
Intl Growth | 145.82 | 153.49 | - 0.04 | 0.48
North American | 159.17 | 159.07† | + 1.18 | 1.86
Pelican | 143.53 | 151.09 | + 0.10 | 3.13
Smaller Cos | 73.85 | 77.53 | + 0.30 | 2.77
Special Sits | 91.83 | 96.86† | - 0.25 | 2.40
1st of Ipc Uts | 218.85 | 230.37 | + 0.69 | 1.22

EVERMORE FUND MGMT LTD
0171 407 5966
Smaller Cos Inc | 249.43 | 265.78 | + 1.84 | 1.45
Smaller Cos Acc | 428.47 | 456.82 | + 1.84 | 1.45
Recovery | 59.33 | 63.12 | + 0.08 | 1.68
Recovery Acc | 61.31 | 65.22 | + 0.07 | 1.68

EXETER FUND MANAGERS LTD
01392 412 144
Capital Growth | 92.79 | 99.51 | + 2.42 | .
Fd of Inv Tsts | 52.68 | 56.18 | + 0.04 | 0.51
High Income # | 38.57 | 41.76 | + 0.09 | 11.04
Warrant | 42.87 | 52.14† | + 0.02 | .
Zero Preference | 44.54 | 47.26 | + 0.06 | .

FAMILY INVESTMENT MGMT LTD
01273 253 707
Family Assets Tst | 93.30 | 99.25 | - 0.18 | 2.57
United Charities | 312.20 | 332.16 | - 0.40 | 2.37

FIDELITY INVESTMENT SERVS LTD
Callfree: Private Clients: 0800 414 161
Cash Fnds
Cash Fund | 100.00 | 100.00 | . | 5.20
Bond Funds
Gilt Bond | 39.98 | 30.07 | - 0.10 | 5.78
Strategic Inc | 28.88 | 28.10† | - 0.04 | 5.78
Income Funds
High Income | 28.54 | 27.96 | - 0.06 | 5.53
Income Plus | 180.00 | 188.30† | - 0.40 | 3.97
European Income | 49.30 | 53.08 | - 0.25 | 2.56
UK Div Gth | 31.14 | 33.12† | - 0.11 | 2.26
Equity Funds
ASEAN | 64.92 | 69.25 | + 0.62 | .
American | 329.50 | 348.10 | - 0.40 | .
Amer Spec Sits | 189.10 | 201.70 | + 0.30 | ...
Japan Smaller Cos | 34.44 | 36.67 | - 0.10 | .
European | 331.10 | 345.80 | - 0.10 | 0.55
European Opps | 91.58 | 96.75 | - 0.05 | 0.02
Global Prin | 30.86 | 32.82 | + 0.16 | 0.34
Gth Europe | 121.30 | 129.20 | . | 1.59
Growth & Inc | 176.10 | 187.30 | - 0.60 | 2.48
Intl PEP | 47.93 | 50.97 | - 0.08 | 1.87
Japan Spec Sits | 90.53 | 96.17 | - 0.25 | .
Japan | 176.30 | 188.20 | - 0.80 | .
Managed Intl | 354.20 | 377.80 | - 0.60 | 0.49
Moneyfeeder | 97.37 | 71.64 | + 0.03 | .
Recovery | 82.26 | 86.20 | - 0.25 | 1.63
South E Asia | 187.40 | 199.90† | + 1.80 | 0.97
Special Sits | 725.40 | 771.30† | + 0.20 | 0.50
Specialist Funds
Cash Account Units | 115.98 | 115.98 | + 0.04 | 5.20

FLEMING PRIVATE FUND MGMT LTD
0171 814 2700
Balanced # | 151.60 | 154.10† | . | 1.55
Inc Profile # | 95.23 | 98.90† | - 0.25 | 2.86
Cap Plus | 165.50 | 167.90 | - 0.50 | 0.65
General Opps | 144.60 | 146.10 | . | 4.01
Growth Inc | 37.51 | 39.11 | - 0.15 | 0.96
Private Portfolio | 451.50 | 499.80† | . | 0.88

FOREIGN & COLONIAL UNIT MGT
Dlg 01277 680 300 Admin/Mail 01277 680 350
Euro Smaller Cos | 153.30 | 163.00 | - 0.50 | 0.38
Emrg Asian | 143.90 | 155.50 | + 0.40 | .
High Income | 21.38 | 22.69 | - 0.07 | 9.82
UK Income | 114.20 | 121.80 | - 0.70 | 4.08
US Smaller Cos | 436.80 | 465.20 | + 0.70 | .

For Foster & Braithwaite see Quilter

FRANKLINGTON UNIT MGMT LTD
Enq 0171 330 8500 Dealing 0345 777511
American Growth | 91.01 | 97.15 | + 0.02 | .
- do- Accum | 91.81 | 97.15 | + 0.02 | .
Asset Smlr Cos | 727.50 | 778.50† | + 8.00 | .
- do- Accum | 743.70 | 795.40† | + 8.20 | .
Capital Tst | 402.40 | 426.10† | + 5.50 | 1.59
- do- Accum | 591.30 | 629.80† | + 9.80 | 1.59
Cont Smlr Cos | 51.92 | 55.06 | - 0.04 | 1.05
- do- Accum | 53.55 | 70.05 | - 0.05 | 1.05
Convertible | 143.50 | 153.70 | - 0.20 | 5.60
- do- Accum | 319.50 | 330.70 | - 0.30 | 5.60
Emerging Markets | 69.72 | 73.42 | + 1.14 | 0.30
- do- Accum | 68.96 | 73.67 | + 1.15 | 0.30
European | 151.60 | 160.70 | - 0.20 | 0.50
- do- Accum | 160.60 | 170.30 | - 0.20 | 0.50
Extra Income | 353.00 | 418.10 | + 2.60 | 4.45
- do- Accum | 625.80 | 665.70 | + 4.00 | 4.45
Financial | 176.70 | 188.00 | + 0.30 | 0.46
Gilt Income | 107.80 | 109.80 | + 0.20 | 0.46
Gilt Trust | 65.98 | 67.10 | - 0.04 | 6.76
- do- Accum | 68.57 | 161.60 | . | 6.76
Health Fund Inc | 271.60 | 290.20 | + 0.60 | .
- do- Accum | 271.60 | 290.20 | + 0.60 | .
Income & Growth | 233.50 | 248.80 | + 0.60 | 3.61
- do- Accum | 370.50 | 394.20 | + 1.00 | 3.61
Intl Growth | 448.40 | 477.40 | + 0.60 | .
- do- Accum | 497.50 | 530.20 | - 0.60 | .
Japan & Gen | 172.40 | 183.20 | - 0.50 | .
- do- Accum | 174.10 | 185.10 | - 0.40 | .
Monthly Inc # | 196.50 | 211.60† | - 0.30 | 4.38
Managed Pan Inc | 123.40 | 125.50 | - 0.10 | 1.38
- do- Accum | 134.10 | 141.20 | . | 1.38
Quarterly Income # | 57.26 | 61.47† | - 0.14 | 4.91
- do- Accum # | 65.80 | 70.63† | - 0.16 | 4.91
Recovery | 353.30 | 377.90 | - 0.40 | .
Recovery Acc | 417.00 | 446.00 | - 0.50 | .
UK Growth | 66.98 | 71.26 | - 0.30 | 2.76
- do- Accum | 72.63 | 77.27 | + 0.32 | 2.76

FRIENDS PROVIDENT UNIT TRUSTS
Dealing 01722 715855 Enq 01722 715854
FP American | 62.00 | 65.12 | + 0.05 | 0.50
FP Asian Growth | 213.50 | 227.70 | + 1.70 | .
FP Asian Growth | 291.30 | 310.30 | + 1.90 | .
FP Australian | 426.50 | 457.00† | + 4.30 | .
FP Equity Dist | 458.90 | 488.50 | - 0.30 | 2.44
- do- Accum | 710.14 | 756.01 | - 0.50 | 2.44
FP Euro Gth | 298.50 | 307.70 | - 1.00 | .
- do- Accum | 315.80 | 336.60 | - 1.00 | .
FP Intl Bond | 59.81 | 63.29† | - 0.06 | 4.63
FP Intl Gilt Dist | 39.12 | 41.72 | + 0.33 | 0.14
- do- Accum | 57.17 | 60.91 | + 0.48 | 0.14
FP Pac Basin Acc | 237.80 | 242.90 | + 4.40 | .
FP Income # | 60.30 | 64.21 | + 0.60 | 5.07
- do- Accum # | 210.60 | 224.60 | + 2.00 | 5.07
FP Jap Small Cos | 306.50 | 326.90 | + 5.60 | .
FP Monthly Dist # | 76.21 | 81.29† | + 0.40 | 4.56
FP Stg Deposit | 101.00 | 101.00 | + 0.10 | 5.05
FP Tokyo | 93.84 | 89.42† | + 0.56 | .
FP Uk Focus | 43.20 | 46.08 | + 0.24 | 2.03
FP Uk Growth | 201.10 | 214.50 | + 1.00 | 2.18
- do- Accum | 405.50 | 432.50 | + 2.10 | 2.19
Stewardship Dist | 431.60 | 460.30 | . | 1.38
- do- Accum | 541.10 | 577.10 | . | 1.38
Stewardship Inc Dist # | 81.57 | 87.00† | - 0.05 | 4.57
- do- Accum # | 111.50 | 118.90 | - 0.10 | 4.57
M Am Selling Dist | 128.90 | 137.40 | + 0.10 | 0.24
- do- Accum | 139.40 | 147.80 | . | 0.24
FP Managed Portfolio Service
Capital Gwth Acc | 130.90 | 139.20 | + 1.50 | 1.53
Open Cap Gth Acc | 69.20 | 73.42 | + 1.14 | 0.30
Cap Gth Inc Acc # | 120.00 | 127.80† | + 0.10 | 0.30
Cap Gth Inc Acc # | 127.20 | 135.30 | + 0.10 | 3.39
Opn Cp Gth Inc Ic # | 121.70 | 129.40† | + 0.20 | 3.84
Opn Cp Gth Ic Ac # | 130.00 | 138.20 | + 0.20 | 3.84

GA UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD
0345 581 1097
GANDA | 294.60 | 311.00 | . | 1.98
Cash | 49.10 | 50.30 | . | 0.87
Growth Portfolio | 88.37 | 94.73 | . | 0.87
Income Portfolio | 70.76 | 74.83 | . | 4.11

GEM (GOLPHIN) INV MGRS LTD
01771 226 6441
Special Sits | 235.90 | 252.30 | + 0.60 | 1.04
Dividend | 97.45 | 104.20 | - 0.20 | 4.10
Int Gth & Inc | 254.76 | 272.48 | + 0.70 | 3.17
UK & Gen | 90.87 | 54.41† | + 0.10 | 2.67
Fund of Funds | 75.23 | 80.46† | + 0.06 | .

GT GLOBAL FUND MGMT LTD
Inv 0800 212274 Dealing 0171 626 9431
American Smlr Cos | 265.50 | 284.00 | + 0.30 | 0.12
European Gth | 736.10 | 780.30 | - 3.10 | 0.61
Euro Eq & Bd Inc | 58.06 | 58.42 | - 0.19 | 4.78
- do- Accum | 62.22 | 65.95 | - 0.21 | 4.78
Far East & Gen | 274.70 | 293.

Bell sounds alarm over security flaw in smart card chips

FROM RICHARD THOMSON IN NEW YORK

MILLIONS of smart cards, the high-technology plastic cards with a microchip containing "virtual cash", may have a security flaw enabling criminals to counterfeit them, according to a leading US research company.

The discovery could come as a severe blow to the public acceptability of smart cards, which depend heavily not only on their convenience as a method of payment but on their security from interference. Smart cards have been hailed by some as the key to a cashless future.

Bell Communications Research, one of the leading information technology research organisations in the US, claims in a paper published this week that the cards were not tamper-resistant as their issuers had claimed them to be. They may be open to possible piracy, in effect allowing criminals to create cash or read personal information.

Theoretical research showed that the chips contained in smart cards might be manipulated simply by putting them in a microwave oven.

Bell Communications, also known as Bellcore, is owned by the regional US Bell telephone companies which are planning to market smart cards as a way of paying for long-distance phone calls.

Cards such as Mondex, which is on issue in the UK and Europe, contain a memory chip which can be filled with electronic money and personal financial information about the card-holder.

The major credit card networks, Visa and Mastercard, have developed smart cards which are particularly popular in France.

However a flaw allowing criminals to read the information in stolen cards and fill the chips with "counterfeit" electronic money could undermine the use of the cards.

"This is a significant discovery because it is a new attack on the system," said Bill Barr, vice-president of the Smart Card Forum, a trade group of 230 US companies and government agencies. The card industry would have to learn how to respond to the possibility of "physical attack" on smart cards, he said.

Although no attempts to counterfeit cards have yet been recorded, Mr Barr said that if the possibility exists it was only a matter of time before someone tried it. Bellcore said it was advising some companies on ways to build defences into their cards.

However some of the largest card companies were cautious about Bellcore's research. "This is speculative," said Chris Jarman, vice-president of chip card technology at Mastercard. Card company executives said the danger to the system was no greater than that of counterfeiting $20 notes.


ALAN WELLER

Richard Mais said CNC remains on the lookout for acquisitions, having bought Brightstone Properties in May

CNC sees upturn in housing

BY FRASER NELSON

GRADUAL rent increases and a drop in the number of empty properties were yesterday identified by CNC, the property group, as showing the first solid signs of recovery in the housing market.

Richard Mais, CNC's managing director, said that since the end of the summer holiday, occupier demand had sharpened against a backdrop of a drop in the number of quality properties available.

His comments came as the company, formerly Clarke, Nickolls & Coombs, returned taxable profits of £1.02 million (£617,000) in the six months to June 30. £126,000 of this was generated by Brightstone Properties, which CNC bought in May in a hostile bid. Mr Mais said the company remained firmly on the acquisition trail, and had increased its cash pile from £113,000 to £1.34 million since last year.

Earnings were 0.48p (0.35p) per share, but more were in issue. The interim dividend, due on December 5, is 0.13p (0.12p).

3i sets its sights on Singapore

BRITAIN'S biggest venture capital provider, 3i, plans a presence in Singapore by the start of next year to plug into the power of the Asian Tiger economies and the growing army of successful entrepreneurs there (Martin Waller writes).

The operation in Singapore will be a limited one at first, but 3i is trawling its senior staff for a director to be sent out to set up an office to serve both the island state and Malaysia, Thailand, Indonesia and the Philippines at first.

Around a tenth of 3i's assets are in continental businesses, but the venture capitalist's exposure outside Europe is limited. An operation in the US is being run down and 3i is exiting an Indian venture, leaving just one offshoot in Japan.

Singapore is seen as the ideal base to expand into the Far East. It is politically stable with a well-developed infrastructure and regulations governing the financial services sector are also among the most strictly enforced in the area.

Leading bankers covet 'six pillars' of Australia's financial sector

Rachel Bridge anticipates a report that is expected to signal a significant shift in policy on takeovers by foreign institutions

The world's biggest banks are keeping an extremely close eye on Australia while they await publication of the report after a major inquiry into the financial sector which looks set to give the green light to a wave of takeover activity. Indeed, speculation has intensified that one or two foreign players may be tempted to beat the rush and make a move before the report of what was known as the Wallis inquiry is handed down in the next few months.

Heading the list of those known to be interested in making an aquisition down under are Lloyds TSB — which was recently thwarted in its bid for New Zealand's Trust Bank — The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, and Dutch banks ABN Amro and ING.

One Sydney analyst said: "The shake-up certainly looks set to make it a lot easier for foreign banks to take over an Australian bank — and it may not be confined to the most obvious predators. Bank of Scotland, for example, came out of nowhere to snap up BankWest in Western Australia." The Wallis inquiry was set up by the Australian Government to carry out a full-scale review of the financial sector in a bid to make it more internationally competitive — and to attract more overseas players to Australia. Peter Costello, the Federal Treasurer, said: "I think a lot of international financial companies think, when you're looking for a regional Asia-Pacific financial headquarters, you go to Singapore and Hong Kong. I'd like to say to them, come to Australia."

> The end result must be a brain drain because the most talented leave to work in the head office of the overseas acquirer

In the most wide-ranging inquiry since 1981, the Wallis committee has been charged specifically with solving the thorny question of what to do about mergers and takeovers. These are currently prevented between Australia's four biggest banks and its two leading life assurance groups under the so-called "six pillars" policy introduced by Paul Keating, the former Prime Minister. But all four of the banks — ANZ, Westpac, National Australia Bank and Commonwealth Bank — have been lobbying hard and loud to get the existing restrictions scrapped.

This means that unless it makes a move soon, any foreign bank looking to join the party is likely to face some fierce competition from Australian banks themselves for their prey. Don Argus, managing director of National Australia Bank, argues that Australian banks need to acquire "critical mass" in domestic markets if they are to become big enough to compete internationally. And few analysts doubt that NAB would waste little time in launching a bid for one of its rivals — Westpac or ANZ — if the rules allowed.

The signs are that the banks' clamour is being heard: Stan Wallis himself, the businessman heading the inquiry, recently said: "What we want in this sector is a more competitive outcome. It does not always follow that when you have four or five participants you necessarily get the right competitive outcome. There is no question that in Australia we have got an overbranched banking sector; there are some very large costs there at the moment."

Not every one is happy, however, and critics argue that a wave of bank mergers would not produce a more efficient lower-cost environment, they would simply concentrate economic power further. The Australian Competition and Consumer Commission said: "The argument that Australians should bear the burden of anti-competitive structures at home because this may make some few institutions more competitive on the world stage is entirely unsatisfactory." St George Bank, the regional bank in which NAB has a stake, has said: "The globalisation argument from major banks is absolute nonsense — one of the reasons NAB wants to take over this bank is to take us out of the market. Consumer banking markets in Australia are local and domestic in nature, not global."

Where the big four banks are less united is on the issue of opening the door for foreign banks to come and play. ANZ, long rumoured to be the object of The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation's desires, has warned the committee that allowing foreign ownership in the finance sector can lead to a diminishing of major head office skills and management talent.

Citing the example of New Zealand, in which all the banks are foreign-owned, ANZ says: "Taken to its logical conclusion, the end result must be a significant brain drain because the most talented management leaves to work in the head office of the overseas acquirer and because the opportunities for employment of allied professional services and new graduates are diminished."

Certainly, there is no sign that the appeal of Australia is waning overseas: in the past year both Bank of Scotland and AXA — the French insurance group which took over National Mutual, the life group — entered the market for the first time.

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■ VISUAL ART 1

The lonely, the wounded and the bewildered: all this is caught in a new show by Sam Taylor-Wood



■ VISUAL ART 2

Everyday objects are rarely what they seem when Jordan Baseman gets to work at the Saatchi Gallery

THE TIMES ARTS



■ VISUAL ART 3

... while the photographs by Candida Hofer present familiar domestic scenes in a strange new light



■ VISUAL ART 4

Fifty years of highly varied painting by Philip Meninsky go on show at Kingston Museum

VISUAL ART: New London shows; and **Richard Cork** on the sad images created by two young artists

ESTELLE THOMPSON's large abstract paintings have gone through a general shift. Instead of seeming to picture a patterned cloth surface, the expanded warp and weft of tartan or twill, the "hands on" appearance of the rubbed-under painting allows a greater distinction between one layer and another. Heavy opaque red in *Red Flats* (1996) is stretched across the four corners, but leaves a sharp outlined negative cross, like a slit in a castle wall. Although the show is full and works of different "styles" seem to rub shoulders with each other, Thompson's tendency to over-finish her paintings is held in check in the recent work.
Estelle Thompson at Purdy/Hicks Gallery, 65 Hopton Street London SE1 (0171-401 9229) until Oct 19

● HAVING photographed, among other things, foyers, staircases, waiting areas, meeting rooms and conference facilities in public and municipal buildings across Europe for nearly 20 years, Germany's Candida Hofer knows exactly what she wants and where to look. The tilt of a shiny marble floor, the inevitable multibulbed light that hangs over a staircase, the wall of window that runs from floor to ceiling with yards of curtaining, can all help the colour-melt into a general pearliness. But the presentation of these empty, unsung, often unnoticed places in this way can lack a specificity that encourages extra attention.
Candida Hofer at Robert Prime 60/61 Warren Street, London W1 (0171- 916 6366) until Oct 26

● THIS set of black and white photographs by the American artist James Welling of lace factories in Calais is displayed interestingly. Dense and intense clusters of photographs have been hung on only two of the four gallery walls. Giant vats, bobbins and looms photographed in workshops, on factory floors and in laboratories seem to provide a dark density of information. Despite contemporary lettering on labels, strip lighting and other details the machinery seems to belong to a 19th-century record of industry, and yet these rich and exquisite pictures carry a matter-of-fact independence about them that separates them from documentation.
James Welling at Camden Arts Centre, Arkwright Road, London NW3 (0171-435 2643) until Nov 10

● WHILE Welling might play with the look and function of photographic history, Andrew Lord, who makes huge, rough-edged decorative vessels, deals with the implications of a craft tradition. *Sorrow* consists of 30 very large dark pieces which parade in a great chunk across the gallery floor. Jugs with pouting lips, chunky elaborate handles and skirted bases sit like tangible and fallible caricatures. Heavy metallic powder seems fired in with the clay, while small patches or splashes of gold are melted on after firing. The obvious touch and moulding involved in the making of each lumpenly delicate sculptural piece is echoed by a series of crayon outline drawings banked against the wall.
Andrew Lord at Camden Arts Centre, Arkwright Road, London NW3 (0171-435 2643) until Nov 10

SACHA CRADDOCK



Epitome of a troubled soul: Dexter Fletcher plays one of the central figures in Sam Taylor-Wood's film, *Pent-Up*

Distress signals from lonely hearts

Among the many young women who contribute so powerfully to the vitality of new British art, **Sam Taylor-Wood** charges her work with a pungent sense of loneliness, dissatisfaction and bewilderment. Entering the darkened immensity of the excellent Chisenhale Gallery, where her ambitious new film installation fills the whole of one wide wall, is like stumbling on a series of wounded, intimate disclosures. We feel intrusive.

Each of the five separate projections, shot on 16mm, concentrates on an isolated individual. All in distress, they nevertheless range from manic agitation to hunched despondency. The rumpled youth on the far right grimaces and writhes as he paces outside a house, swearing to himself and bellowing up at the windows. The woman next to him is even more voluble, moving restlessly around the counter of a bar. But she is less easy to make out in the subdued lighting, and her boozy recriminations are no more coherent.

As I scanned the wall, trying to decide which monologue to settle on, I found myself returning to the young man in the middle. Pacing through his flat in boxer shorts, he looks unshaven and hung over. He mutters to himself, appraises his body sceptically in the mirror and slumps on a bed, hanging his head upside-down from the side.

His actions are uneventful, and culminate merely in the act of climbing into a bath, but the man's dissatisfaction is convincing. His tense restraint, subtly conveyed by Dexter Fletcher, compares well with the style of the figures on his right. He reinforces the title of the work, *Pent-Up*, and mediates between their theatricality and the less demonstrative behaviour of the people to his left.

One, an older man played by the reformed criminal John McVicar, sags in his armchair and admits to a sense of despair. Static, soft-spoken and wearing only a sweatshirt and shorts, he contrasts with the crisply-dressed formality of the middle-aged woman on the far left. Walking along a pavement, she seems at first the most controlled member of Taylor-Wood's cast. But then she breaks the unwritten code of the street by talking to herself, often loudly and with a reined-in vehemence.

Any attempt to describe *Pent-Up* as a sequence of monologues falsifies the impact of the whole installation. Taylor-Wood makes sure that it is, at all times, a tantalising work to absorb. We are constantly wrenched from one film over to another, distracted by sudden cries or emphatic gestures. *Pent-Up* remains fiercely fragmented, even if these solitary figures sometimes appear to be responding to one another in odd, unpredictable exchanges. This tension between the reality of loneliness and the possibility of shared experience is reminiscent of Taylor-Wood's most outstanding earlier work, *Killing Time*. Projected on four separate screens, each containing a single figure in different surroundings, it alerted me to her remarkable talent. Rather than talking, the people in *Killing Time* all mime roles in Strauss's opera *Elektra*. But they do not try to match the heightened drama of the parts they have been given. Often bored, they lip-synch their way through the music without any involvement in the drama. The gulf between Strauss's romanticism and their mundanity has a poignancy of its own.

The people in *Pent-Up* may be more angry than their predecessors in *Killing Time*, but the two works are finally united by Taylor-Wood's fascination with an overall mood of helplessness. All her people seem to be trapped. They may yearn for alternative lives, and in *Pent-Up* be more ready to protest about their predicaments. But their vulnerability is beyond dispute, and the solitude afflicting everyone in Taylor-Wood's work ends up revealing a great deal about the frustrations of existence in the 1990s.

> Solitude reveals a great deal about the frustration of life in the 1990s

Stunted life is also an overriding preoccupation in the work of **Jordan Baseman**, the most impressive contributor to the latest Saatchi Gallery show. Born in Philadelphia but a London resident for the past decade, Baseman often takes found objects as his springboard. By the time he has finished with them, though, they take on an identity alarmingly at odds with their former character.

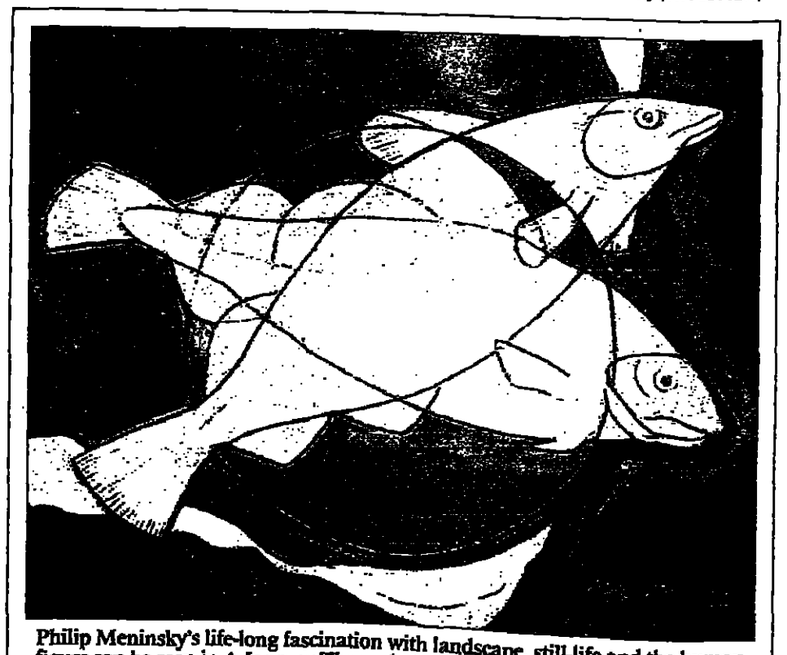
From afar, the colossal words "I love you" look as if they are simply painted on the white wall. Close-to, they turn out to sprout human hair. The dark, thin tendrils dangle down limply, suggesting that all three words have long since become overgrown. At the slightest breath, they tremble like tall grass reacting to a breeze. The words' unequivocal declaration is countered, indicating that such a headlong commitment is bound to be short-lived. Hair is inescapable in Baseman's perturbing art. More tendrils spring out of a child's conventional white shirt, slung from a hanger on the wall. Both the shirt and its young owner appear to have been overwhelmed by some unstoppable growth, as if puberty had arrived in a premature and grotesque rush.

Even when dealing with adulthood, Baseman's work insists that nothing adds up. *Call Me Mister* consists principally of a man's shirt torso, complete with collar and necktie. But child's sleeves grow out of the shoulders, suggesting that the wearer is hopelessly immature. Human hair courses down the centre, compounding the imbalance in an almost monstrous way.

Wherever you look, Baseman is preoccupied with bizarre, unchecked disjunction. Two shoes lie on the floor, outrageously extended into brazen, phallic forms. They look like an assertion of masculinity run riot, but anyone attempting to wear these elongated brogues would soon realise how fatuous they really are. Comedy plays a subversive role in much of Baseman's work. At his most puckish, he is capable of lodging wisdom teeth in pink mouth braces and transforming them into winged creatures. *Up, Up and Away* is the work's title, and they do certainly appear to be relishing their airborne freedom. At the same time, though, both teeth and braces remain gruesome enough to make the entire sculpture repellent as well as festive. As for *Surrender*, the petals borne upwards by a cluster of winged rococo cherubs turn out to contain an assortment of teeth. They look like rotting chocolates, gift-wrapped for a journey to heaven.

The darkest side of Baseman's haunted imagination is more potent, though. On one wall, the skinned pelts of a tabby cat and a collie dog hang next to each other. But their heads are modelled, and the cat seems to gaze disconsolately down through glass eyes at its vanished body. The fact that both animals' paws, legs and tails have been preserved only makes their corporeal loss grimmer still. Their pelts are resplendent enough to remind us that humans can relish them as trophies. In this context, however, they look forlorn and far more damaged than the loners who lament their pain in Taylor-Wood's cinematic confessional.

● *Pent-Up at the Chisenhale Gallery (0181-981 4518) until Oct 27; Young British Artists VI at the Saatchi Gallery (0171-624 8299)*



Philip Meninsky's life-long fascination with landscape, still-life and the human figure can be seen in *A Journey Through the Eyes*, a retrospective of 50 years of painting by Meninsky. The exhibition is at the Kingston Museum, Wheatfield Way, Kingston upon Thames (0181-546 5386) until October 19

Mimmo Paladino (b. 1948), *Tango*, signed and dated 1983 on the reverse, oil and wood on canvas, 143 by 143cm (56⅜ by 56⅜in.). Estimate: £30,000-40,000. To be sold on the 24th October in London.

OPPORTUNITIES TO BUY IN OCTOBER

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3rd	♦ October	Important Clocks, Watches, Wristwatches & Barometers. Coins, Medals & Banknotes (continues on 4th October). Mechanical Musical Instruments.
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8th	♦ October	Modern & Contemporary Indian Paintings.
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17th	♦ October	Islamic & Indian Works of Art. The Dina Vierny Collection of Highly Important Dolls & Automata (continues on 18th October).
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Gordon 38, Tel Aviv 63414, Israel

7th	♦ October	19th & 20th Century Art.
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Summers Place, Billingshurst, West Sussex, RH14 9AD

22nd	♦ October	The Dining Room (Furniture, Ceramics, Works of Art & Silver).

All dates subject to change

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نسخة من الأصل



■ THEATRE

Gene Wilder is just one of the big stars who have been lured back to the live theatre



■ MUSIC 1

Colin Matthews's massive *Renewal* is premiered to mark the 50th anniversary of Radio 3

THE TIMES ARTS



■ MUSIC 2

... while at the Wigmore, six top string quartets work together on a Beethoven cycle



■ TOMORROW

Rise of the phoenix: how Venice is rebuilding La Fenice Opera House

Gene Wilder makes his West End debut... and Al Pacino puts his celebrity behind an ailing Broadway theatre

It's a stage many film stars love to go through

When Gene Wilder opens in the West End in Neil Simon's *Laughter on the 23rd Floor* this week, few in the audience will be aware that the American actor's London stage debut will see him back in the medium where he began.

In 1962 — long before he became known as the frizzy-haired star at the centre of Mel Brooks's film comedy stable — Wilder was a supporting player in the likes of Richard Johnson, Michael Redgrave and Googie Withers in Graham Greene's *The Complaisant Lover* on Broadway. He also appeared with Helen Hayes in a play called *The White House*, and with Carol Channing in Shaw's *The Millionairess*.

It was during the Broadway run of Murray Schisgal's *Luv* that Wilder took a leave of absence to film his celebrated cameo as the undertaker in *Bonnie and Clyde*. He got his part in *The Producers*, the film that made him a star, after appearing opposite Mel Brooks's girlfriend (now wife), Anne Bancroft, in a Broadway revival of *Mother Courage*. Then, as now, the theatre was where careers were launched.

"I didn't set out on any plan to get to the movies," says Wilder, whose training — a year at Bristol Old Vic included — was entirely in theatre. During the run of *Mother Courage*, he recalls: "People would say, 'Don't you want to go to Hollywood?' And I would say, 'What am I going to do? I'll go to Hollywood, walk into an office, and there will be a producer smiling, going, 'I hear you're a funny guy.'"

The point was, says Wilder, "I couldn't walk into an office and be funny. But if someone saw me in a play, I thought, then maybe — just maybe — I could."

Wilder is hardly alone, of course, in returning to the medium that spawned him. Glenn Close received five Academy Award nominations between 1982 and 1988, all the while returning to the theatre where she has won three Tony Awards. Broadway's biggest hit of the moment is Eugene O'Neill's *Hughie*, starring Al Pacino (*see article, right*).

Many British actors begin on the stage and regularly go back there, with Ralph Fiennes's commitment to the medium typifying the attitude of many performers of his generation. "He's determined not to lose touch with the theatre," says an admiring David Hare, the adapter of Chekhov's *Ivanov*, in which Fiennes will star at the Almeida early next year. "The pressure to make movies all the time is relentless. American agents just don't understand. Everything in the world is being thrown at Ralph, and he wants to play difficult, early Chekhov."

> 'I did not set out on any plan to get to the movies'

It is the previous acting generation in England that can develop a resistance to the theatre, perhaps because success on stage has seemed comparatively easy. "I've never been comfortable in the theatre," Anthony Hopkins told *Vanity Fair*. "I've done it all, but I never enjoyed it."

Ian McKellen could have spent his life roving from part to part in the classical theatre. Instead he has chosen to spread his wings in film — emboldened by the response to a film performance in *Richard III*, itself rooted in a prior stage success.

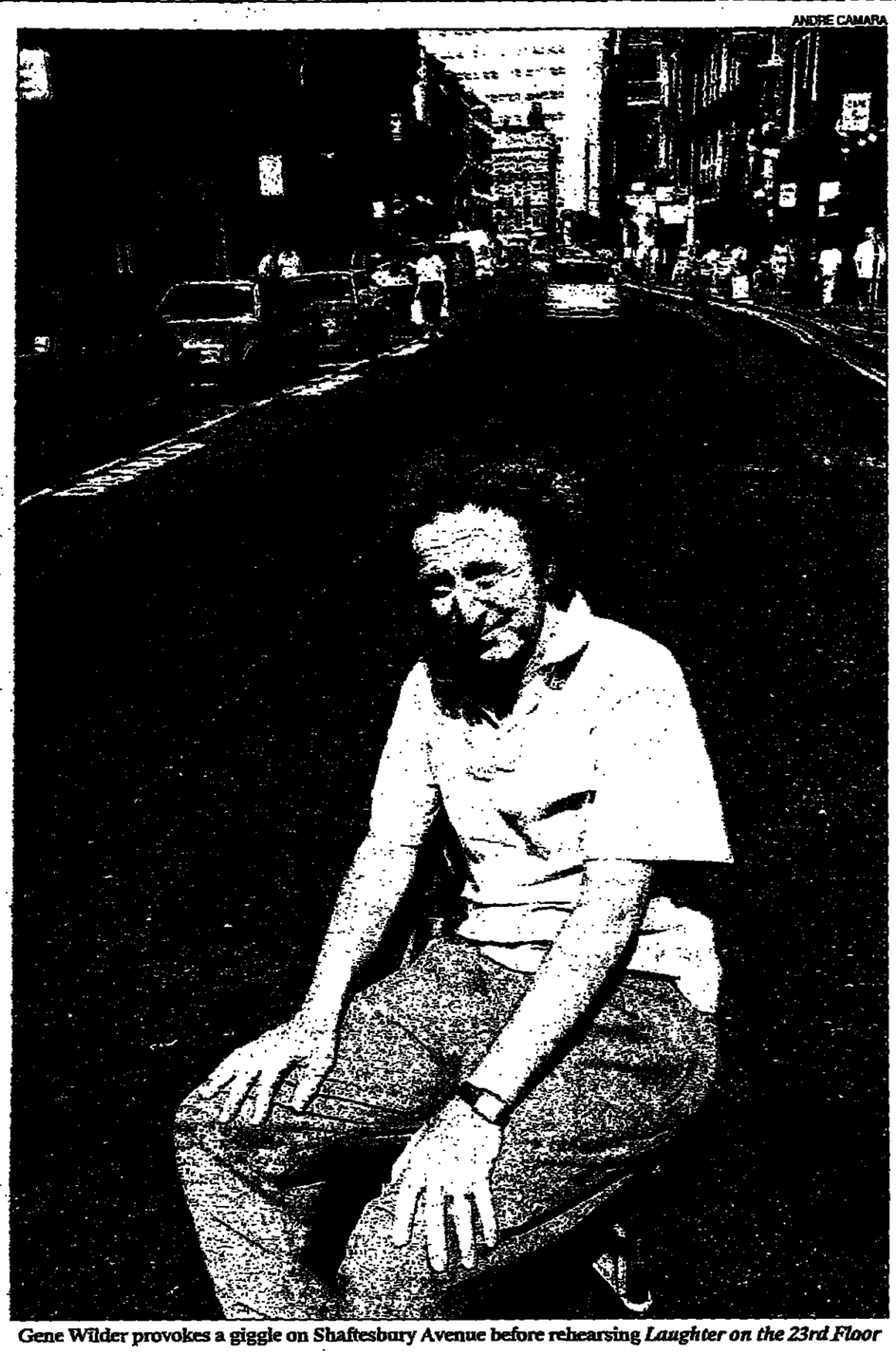
If Alec Guinness, among others, was correct to refer to the status of film in England as "a guilty pleasure", small wonder that theatre stars here are going to relish a medium from which they might once have felt shut out. "I don't think I ever heard of people like me doing *movies*," says Eileen Atkins, who is embracing the cinema in her sixties by writing two films, starring in one of them. "Larry Kramer wanted me for *Women In Love* and I remember thinking, 'No, I'll never get it; I don't do movies.' I always thought I was too plain."

The Canadian actress Kate Nelligan was embarked on a major stage career in Britain when she left in the early 1980s to conquer Broadway. Now settled in Manhattan, Nelligan is content with the altogether different reputation she has developed as a first-rate character actress in films such as *The Prince of Tides*. "After a while," she says, "I didn't care whether people saw my Portia."

In a sense it is the classic scenario — those accomplished in one medium come to crave the other. Kathy Bates did a play a year in New York until she won the 1990 Academy Award for *Misery*; since then, she has not done a single one. Jessica Lange, conversely, had barely stood on a stage until she took on the role of Blanche Du Bois in *A Streetcar Named Desire* on Broadway in 1992, a performance she will soon repeat in the West End.

MATT WOLF

● Laughter on the 23rd Floor *opens on Thursday at the Queen's Theatre, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5040)*



ANDRE CAMARA

Gene Wilder provokes a giggle on Shaftesbury Avenue before rehearsing *Laughter on the 23rd Floor*

Who better to play the godfather?

Al Pacino's first Broadway stint in four years was to have been a perfunctory five weeks in Eugene O'Neill's *Hughie* at the Circle in the Square theatre. But after Circle, Broadway's oldest nonprofit theatre, declared bankruptcy in the middle of the run, Pacino rallied to help the theatre. He extended *Hughie*'s run and stipulated that 100 tickets at each performance will sell for $20 (Circle's regular price is $55).

But what is happening inside, on the oblong stage sparsely furnished by David Gallow with two chairs, ashtray stands and a skeletal counter to suggest a seedy hotel lobby?

There, too, Pacino is in command. Written with unaccustomed humour, O'Neill's 1941 two-hander is a poignant look at the need for illusions. In the wee hours of a day in 1928, Erie Smith, a gambler, lurches in from a drinking spree. His luck has soured ever since Hughie, the hotel's former receptionist, died. Meeting the new receptionist, Erie begins to recount his adventures with Hughie — the prostitutes he passed off as chorus girls, the craps they shot with real money, all of it Erie's, so that Hughie could also feel like a high roller. Erie's fantasies became Hughie's escape from his dreary existence, and Erie's real luck was Hughie's friendship.

Virtually an extended monologue, the hour-long one-act begs for a virtuoso turn, and Pacino provides it. Planting his feet wide to steady himself, Pacino's Erie is a Damon Runyon character on the skids. By turns Hughie was "just a sucker" and a pal, says Erie, and Pacino captures the loneliness behind the bonhomie, the despair beneath the bravado.

There is perhaps a little more darkness in Erie, who has run errands for sinister figures, than Pacino finds. Costumier Candice Donnelly's good-guy cream outfit unwisely softens the character, too. O'Neill envisioned the gambler in a loud tie and a garish blue shirt "that sets teeth on edge", but here, except for needing a shave and shower, Erie dresses tastefully.

As director, Pacino has solved the problem of O'Neill's elaborate stage directions for the clerk, who seldom speaks. Lengthy interior monologues meant to guide the actor's responses to Erie are made audible. That helps to flesh Paul Benedict's deadpan clerk, coincidentally named Hughes, into a Walter Mitty. His musings about the wailing sirens and garbage trucks outside — "I'd bang those cans louder than they do!" — echo through a microphone as Erie rambles on. Hughes is clearly Hughie's doppelganger: married with children, bored, living a safe life and trapped in a dead-end job. He tries to ignore Erie, but in the end he, like Hughie, succumbs to Erie's illusions.



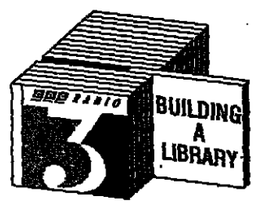
Al Pacino, mesmerising in *Hughie*

EDWARD KARAM

CLASSICAL CHOICE

A guide to the best available recordings, presented in conjunction with Radio 3

ORLANDO GIBBONS
reviewed by Roderick Swanston



THE posthumous reputation of Orlando Gibbons (1583-1625) has rested mostly on his Anglican liturgical repertory, although he was equally at home in secular music. There are 11 CDs containing church music by Gibbons, of which seven are devoted exclusively to it. Mostly the singing style is respectfully Anglican. Typical is the excellent collection on Naxos (8.553130) by the Oxford Camerata directed by Jeremy Summerly. Its best performances are of smaller-scale anthems, where polished balance shows to good effect.

However, my first choice among anthem collections is **Hosanna to the Son of David** (Conifer 75605-51231-2, £14.99), sung by the mixed choir of Trinity College, Cambridge, under Richard Marlow. It contains a feast of verse anthems as well as full anthems, the former accompanied by the magnificent viol consort, Fretwork. The choir is at its best in the quieter reflective anthems such as *O Lord in Thy wrath*. Recommendable also are the anthem and service anthologies by King's College Choir, Cambridge, under Ord and Willcocks (Decca Ovation, 433 677-2) and New College, Oxford under Edward Higginbottom (CRD 3451).

Enjoyable as these church music CDs are, I wonder whether the respectful Anglican style is right for Gibbons, given his verbal sensitivity. Closer in spirit and execution, I think, are the instrumental recordings, particularly of his magnificent viol music. All the CDs devoted to, or containing, this are outstanding, and the **Fantaisies Royales** on Auvidis Astrée (E 7747, £14.99) are only pre-eminent because the disc is devoted exclusively to Gibbons. Equally enthralling are the performances on Hyperion CDA 66395, with violins rather than viols, by the Parley of Instruments, entitled **Music for Prince Charles**.

If I had to select only one Gibbons disc, especially as a starter, it would be the Naxos anthology of **Consort and Keyboard Music, Songs and Anthems** (Naxos 8.550603, £7.99). I especially like the earthy interpretations of Red Byrd whose "burring" pronunciations and conscious anti-polish give a zest to the music that is utterly compelling, both historically and musically.

● *To order the recommended recording, with free delivery, please send a cheque payable to The Times CD Mail to 250 Western Avenue, London W3 6XZ or freephone 0500 418419; e-mail: bid@mail.bogo.co.uk*
● *Next Saturday on Radio 3 (9am): Ravel's Piano Trio*

CONCERTS: A British first and a Beethoven cycle

A sum of fine parts

BBC SO/Knussen
Festival Hall

IT IS not every day you hear a 50-minute, four-movement work with a choral finale by a leading British composer. But as part of the celebrations to mark the 50th anniversary of BBC Radio 3, Colin Matthews's *Renewal* (a BBC commission) received its premiere on Sunday night.

The musical material was not originally conceived as a composite work. The third movement, "Broken Symmetry", was a self-sufficient 20-minute structure, and the second movement, "Threnody", was derived in part from the *Memorial* of 1992. Added to the eight-minute "Intrada", and the final movement, setting lines of Ovid, they formed a structure that is self-evidently spatchcocked together.

Although the shape and coherence of *Renewal* as a whole is less than convincing, there is some very impressive writing among the movements. "Broken Symmetry", with its sinister underlying syncopations and manic energy, is a formidable study in controlled anarchy, while the gradual fragmentation of the oppressive, monolithic textures of "Threnody" is a touching tribute to the late Tōru Takemitsu.

The surprise of the choral finale (rendered by the BBC Symphony Chorus) is capped only by the shift to neo-Romantic, tonal harmonies in the coda. The writing is inspired — something I could not say about the "Intrada", whose offstage trumpet fanfares sounded aimless. Andrew Davis being indisposed, Oliver Knussen stepped in to conduct a generally confident performance.

After the interval Petr Altrichter stood in to direct a somewhat hit-and-miss account of Janáček's Glagolitic Mass. Scrappy ensemble in strings and brass was not improved by some poor balancing between vocal and instrumental forces.

The tenor, Denés Gulyás, for all his rather unsubtly voiced passion, was sometimes obliterated by the orchestra, though Eva Urbanová and Catherine Wyn-Rogers made fine contributions in the soprano and mezzo roles, and the well-drilled BBC Symphony Chorus held its own.

BARRY MILLINGTON

Beethoven with few thrills

Vogler Quartet
Wigmore Hall

IN RECENT years London has been lucky with Beethoven. Magnificent musicians have given us memorable cycles of the sonatas and the chamber music. One thinks of Brendel, the Emersons, the Lindsays. But the Wigmore Hall's new series of the complete string quartets is different. The 17 masterpieces have been shared out among six top international quartets "as a symbol of European friendship". I don't know about that, but there will surely be some fascinating contrasts in style and approach.

Opening the series, the Vogler Quartet — former East Germans who have risen fast — did nothing very astonishing, but did it very well. Aside from a few moments of questionable intonation from the leader, they offer superb technical skills that are all the more effective because they are not flaunted but taken for granted in interpretations of lovely soft-grained lyricism. Few quartets produce a warmer glow in the slow movements: the Adagio cantabile of Op 18 No 2, and especially the glorious Adagio variations of Op 127, were unfolded with a silken serenity.

Missing from a characteristic Vogler interpretation, or at least played down, is much sense of anger, struggle and anguish. The opening Allegro of Op 95 was delivered with great clarity and intelligence, but there was little sense of a tremendous tussle of ideas — of the hurly-burly of genius tossed about.

Neither here nor in the dazzlingly fast but somehow imperturbable finale did one get any impression of the players digging deep into their own psyches. It was all rather unruffled. But this quartet invests so much thought into its phrasing, and plays with such unanimous style, that the listener readily accepts the elevation of poise and grace over storm and stress.

RICHARD MORRISON





CHOICE 1

Rafael Payne, the BBC Young Musician of the Year, plays Vivaldi

VENUE: Tonight at the Barbican



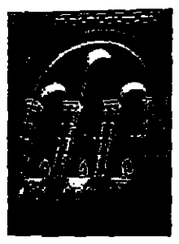
CHOICE 2

Hayley Mills stars in Coward's great weepie, *Brief Encounter*

VENUE: Opens tonight, Derngate, Northampton

THE TIMES

ARTS



DANCE

Kensington shuffle: *Genesis Canyon* brings a little chic movement to the Natural History Museum



POP

Pure talent in an impure world: Blue Nile show their worth in a fine Glasgow show

TODAY'S CHOICE

A daily guide to arts and entertainment compiled by Gillian Maxey

LONDON

BAROQUE NIGHT: The BBC Young Musician of the Year, the violinist Rafael Payne, joins the English Chamber Orchestra for Vivaldi's *The Four Seasons*. Three pieces by Handel follow: a suite from *Rodrigo*, the cantata *Stete Venti* (Susan Gritton, soprano), and the *Water Music*, Suite No 2. Barbican, Silk Street, EC2 (0171-638 8891). Tonight, 7.30pm

LAUGHTER ON THE 23RD FLOOR: Neil Simon's very funny account of working among a team of scriptwriters for comedian Sid Caesar back in the 1950s, fighting against time and philistine producers. Gene Wilder plays Sid. Directed by Roger Haines, who was responsible for last year's Manchester production. Queen's, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5040). Previews tonight and tomorrow, 8pm. Opens Oct 3. 7pm Then Mon-Sat, 8pm; mats Wed, 2.30pm, Sat 4pm

SPLIT BRITCHES: Double-bill, by two performance artists, on lesbian awakening in 1950s America: Peggy Shaw, *You're Just Like My Father*, on being a working-class girl growing up butch; Lois Weaver in *Faith and Dancing* develops from Baptist cheerleader. Drill Hall, Chenies Street, WC1 (0171-637 8270). Previews tonight, 7.30pm. Opens tomorrow, 7.30pm. Then Tue-Sat, 7.30pm. No performances Oct 11 and 12. Until October 26

ELSEWHERE

CHELTENHAM: Northern Stage brings George Orwell's farmyard fable *Animal Farm* vividly to life in a bold physical theatre piece. A hit in 1993, Frank McConnell's muscular choreography is complemented by a thumping, terrifying soundtrack. Alan Lyddiard directs Ian Wooldridge's searing adaptation. Unsuitable for ages 12 and under. Everyman, Regent Street (01242 572573). Opens tonight, 7.45pm. Then Wed-Fri, 7.45pm, Sat, 8pm; mat Thurs, 2pm. Until October 5

COVENTRY: Contact Theatre Company brings its award-winning brand of theatre to Shakespeare's spellbinding play, *The Tempest*. Benjamin Twist directs a dynamic young cast, with Kulvinder Ghir as Ariel. Belgrade, Belgrade Square (01203 553055). Tonight-Thurs, 7.30pm, Fri and Sat, 8pm; mats Wed and Thurs, 2pm. Until October 5

NORTHAMPTON: Two happily married strangers meet in a railway station. Hayley Mills stars in Noël Coward's poignant love story, *Brief Encounter*, based on the film starring Celia Johnson and Trevor Howard. Derngate, Guildhall Road (01604 24811). Opens tonight, 7.30pm. Then Wed-Fri, 7.30pm, Sat, 5.30pm and 8.30pm; mat Wed, 2.30pm. Until October 5.

PRESTON: In a change to the advertised programme, Christopher Timothy steps in to replace Brian Glover in the swashbuckling adventures of D'Artagnan, Porthos, Athos and Aramis. With Susan Twist, Maria Calderone directs this touring production of Dumas's **The Three Musketeers**, adapted by Phil Woods. Charter, Lancaster Road (01772 258858). Opens tonight, 7.30pm. Then Wed-Sat, 7.30pm; mat Thurs, 2.30pm. Next in **Billingham** (01642 552663), Oct 7-12; **Plymouth**, Theatre Royal (01752 267222), Oct 14-19.

LONDON GALLERIES

Anthony d'Offay: Ellen Gallagher (0171-499 4100) . . . **Barbican:** Erwin Blumenfeld: A Fetish for Beauty (0171-638 4141) . . . **British Museum:** Mysteries of Ancient China (0171-636 1555) . . . **Crafts Council:** New Times, New Thinking: Jewellery in Europe and America (0171-278 7700) . . . **Hayward:** Robert Mapplethorpe (0171-928 3144) . . . **National Associate Artist:** Peter Blake (0171-747 2885) . . . **Portal:** Haydn Conner (0171-493 0706) **Tate:** New Displays (0171-887 8000)

THEATRE GUIDE

Jeremy Kingston's assessment of theatre showing in London

■ House full, returns only
◪ Some seats available
☐ Seats at all prices

☐ **ACCOMMODATING EVA:** Dilse Keane plays an illegal Albanian immigrant who takes near revenge on the lawyer who evicts her from her flat. Tom Dulack directs Sylvia Freedman's new comedy. King's Head, 115 Upper Street, N1 (0171-226 1916). Now previewing, 8pm. Opens Oct 7, 7.30pm. Then Tue-Sat, 8pm; mats Sat and Sun, 3.30pm

◪ **FAUST** Part 1: Michael Bogdanov's mighty two-part production of Goethe's drama, with Michael Feast in the lead and Hugh Quarshie as Mephistopheles. The Pit, Barbican, Silk Street, EC2 (0171-638 8891). Tonight and Thurs, 7.15pm, tomorrow, Fri and Sat, 2.30pm. In rep. Until October 5.

■ **KING LEAR:** Having just directed the Bankside Globe's first production, Jack Shepherd stays in the district to direct Oliver Cotton as Lear, Jan Shepherd as Cordelia. Southwark Playhouse, 62 Southwark Bridge Road, SE1 (0171-620 3494). Tue-Sat, 7pm. Until Oct 12.

☐ **NUREMBERG.** Edited by Richard Norton-Taylor, directed by Nicolas Kent, a strong and suspenseful account of the case against the Nazi leaders Goering, Rosenberg, Keitel and Speer. Tricycle, 269 Kilburn High Road, NW6 (0171-328 1000). Bargain preview tonight, 8pm; then Oct 2-9, 8pm; mat Wed, 2pm, Sat, 4pm. Opens, Oct 10, 8.45pm, with *Srebrenica*.

☐ **ROMANCE, ROMANCE:** British premiere of the 1988 Broadway musical, by Keith Hamman and Barry Harman, presenting two views of romance: Schnitzler's in turn-of-the-century Vienna and a modern contrast. Stephen Daldry directs. Bridewell, Bride Lane, Fleet Street, EC4 (0171-936 3456). Tue-Sat, 7.30pm; mats Sat, 2.30pm, Sun, 4.30pm. Until October 5.

■ **SHOPPING AND ****ING:** Out of Joint's new production with a title raising problems for the subsequent tour. Play by Mark Ravenhill, disinherited generation, shocking look at obsessions, etc. Royal Court Upstairs: Stage (formerly Ambassadors), West Street, WC2 (0171-730 2554). Opens tonight, 9.15pm. Then Mon-Sat, 9.15pm.

☐ **TEMPORARY RUPTURE:** Llewella Gideon and Wayne Buchannan in Michael Ellis's enjoyable war-of-the-sexes comedy. A man wants to return to the woman he abandoned after her career prospers; she has other plans for him. Paulette Randall directs for Black Theatre Co-operative.

■ **WHO'S AFRAID OF VIRGINIA WOOLF?** Diana Rigg and David Suchet in Howard Davies's staging of Albee's most famous play. With Clare Holman and Lloyd Owen. Almeida, Almeida Street, N1 (0171-359 4404). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm; mats Sat, 3pm.

LONG RUNNERS

☐ **Don't Dress for Dinner:** Duchess (0171-494 5070) . . . ☐ **Grease:** Dominion (0171-416 6060) . . . ☐ **An Ideal Husband:** Old Vic (0171-928 7616) . . . ◪ **An Inspector Calls:** Garrick (0171-494 5085) . . . ☐ **Jolson:** Victoria Palace (0171-834 1317) . . . ◪ **Les Misérables:** Palace (0171-434 0909) . . . ☐ **Oliver!:** Palladium (0171-494 5020) . . . ■ **The Phantom of the Opera:** Her Majesty's (0171-494 5400) . . . ☐ **Sunset Boulevard:** Adelphi (0171-344 0055) . . . ☐ **Tommy:** Shaftesbury (0171-379 5399) . . . ☐ **The Woman in Black:** Fortune (0171-836 2238)

Ticket information supplied by Society of London Theatre.

CINEMA GUIDE

Geoff Brown's assessment of films in London and (where indicated with the symbol ◆) on release across the country

NEW RELEASES

DON'T FORGET YOU'RE GOING TO DIE: Self-pitying French portrait of an art graduate who tests HIV-positive. Written and directed by, and starring, Xavier Beauvois. ICA Cinema (0171-930 3647)

◆ **JANE EYRE** (PG): Decent but bloodless adaptation of the novel, with Charlotte Gainsbourg and William Hurt. Director, Franco Zeffirelli. Barbican ◪ (0171-638 8891) Notting Hill Coronet ◪ (0171-727 6705) Richmond (0181-332 0030) Ritzy (0171-737 2121) Screen/Hill ◪ (0171-435 3566) Virgin: Fulham Road (0171-370 2636) Haymarket (0171-839 1527) Warner West End (0171-437 4343)

◆ **LAST MAN STANDING** (18): Bruce Willis plays two bootleg gangs against each other. Fancy-looking movie pastiche from director Walter Hill. Clapham Picture House (0171-498 3323) MGM Baker Street (0171-935 9772) Odeons: Kensington (01426 914666) Swiss Cottage (01426 914098) Plaza ◪ (0990 888990) UCI Whiteleys ◪ (0990 888990) Virgin: Chelsea (0171-352 5096) Trocadero (0171-434 0031) Warner West End (0171-437 4343)

◆ **MULTIPLICITY** (12): Michael Keaton clones himself to solve his hectic life. Crass comic treatment of a bright idea. With Andie MacDowell, Director, Harold Ramis. Odeons: Kensington (01426 914666) Leicester Square (01426-915 683) Swiss Cottage (01426 914098) UCI Whiteleys ◪ (0990 888990) Virgin Chelsea (0171-352 5096)

A SUMMER'S TALE (U): Vacationing student ponders female charms. Excellent diversion from veteran French director Eric Rohmer, with Melvil Poupaud and Amanda Langlet. Curzon West End (0171-369 1722) Renoir (0171-837 8402)

CURRENT

L'AMORE MOLESTO (15): A woman grapples with her mother's bizarre death. Compelling and stylish psychological drama from Italian director Mario Martone. MGM Swiss Centre (0171-439 4470)

◆ **EMMA** (U): Gwyneth Paltrow shines in a Jane Austen adaptation that leans too much towards the pretty-pretty. Barbican ◪ (0171-638 8891) Chelsea (0171-351 3742) Clapham Picture House (0171-498 3323) Minema (0171-235 4225) Odeons: Haymarket (01426 915353) Kensington (01426 914666) Swiss Cottage (01426 914098) Renoir (0171-837 8402) Rio (0171-254 6677) Ritzy (0171-737 2121) Screen/Baker Street (0171-935 2772) Screen/Green (0171-226 3520) UCI Whiteleys ◪ (0990 888990) Warner ◪ (0171-437 4343)

◆ **ESCAPE FROM LA** (15): Blowsy action movie from John Carpenter, set in a lawless Los Angeles of 2013. With Kurt Russell. Empire (0800-888 911) UCI Whiteleys ◪ (0990 888990) Virgins: Chelsea (0171-352 5096) Trocadero ◪ (0171-434 0031)

◆ **STEALING BEAUTY** (15): Light and enjoyable Bertolucci film about an American teenager's sexual flowering in Tuscany. With Liv Tyler, Jeremy Irons and Sinead Cusack. Lumiere (0171-836 0691) Odeon Kensington (01426 914666) Screen on Baker Street (0171-935 2772) Virgin Chelsea (0171-352 5096)

◆ **TWISTER** (PG): Cardboard characters chase tornadoes. Great special effects, but repetition softens the impact. With Helen Hunt and Bill Paxton. Director, Jan De Bont. Empire (0990 888990) Virgin Trocadero ◪ (0171-434 0031)

Originality of the species

This year's Dance Umbrella could not have got off to a more remarkable start than the extraordinary event which unfolded inside the Natural History Museum at the weekend. In the Gothic splendour of the main entrance hall, and underneath the watchful eye of the diplodocus that guards its treasures, three *dozen* dancers and one clever American choreographer gave us what the building is all about — the origins of life.

DANCE

Genesis Canyon
Natural History Museum

Genesis Canyon, by Stephan Koplowitz, is the result of six weeks of rehearsal inside the museum; and, according to the choreographer, is a work not meant to be seen anywhere else. You can understand why. From the moment the spectacle opens on the steps of the great hall, *Genesis Canyon* is inextricably linked to this Victorian cathedral of evolutionary science. Dancers swarm its elegant passageways, embrace its elaborate arches and caress its embroidered stones, as if they alone have first rights of residence.

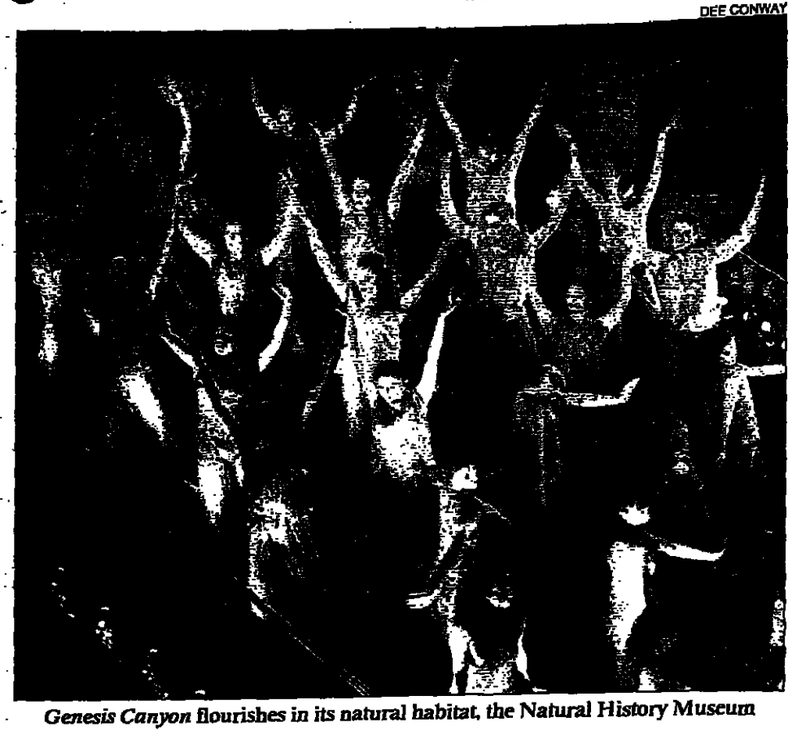
Koplowitz says he was inspired by "the design of the building and the mission of the institution it houses". Indeed, the shape of the choreography is determined by the architecture it encounters, while its colouring is influenced by the power and mystery of primitive energies. *Genesis Canyon* is alert with images of growth and discovery, and underlying it is a sense of evolution's inexorable progression.

The dance begins with the dancers (dressed in shimmering earth colours by Craig Givens) lying face down on the staircase, their arms hugging the cold stone steps, melded together like a single-cell organism. Their bodies jerk and rock in the primordial mud; they crawl backwards up the stairs like agile insects. Gradually one or two of them are separated from the mass as the choreography matures into more structured and linear formations. Individuals are born, societies are formed, and the need to consume space sends the dancers branching out around the building.

Woven through the choreography is a trio of vocal artists dressed as Victorian worthies: Sarah-Jane Morris, with Barnaby Stone and Jonathan Stone, the brothers better known as Ralf Ralf. They perform a score by Jonathan Stone, whose non-language-based sounds and rhythms evoke the Victorians' academic debate with striking animation. As they wander through the audience, we begin to imagine conversations they might be having as they plan the creation of the Natural History Museum itself. The contrast between their smug intellectual superiority in the age of empire and the physical imperative of the slimy creatures who precede them in the darkness of pre-history is one of the delights of *Genesis Canyon*. So, too, is the final image. All the dancers are now back on the stairs, but this time they are standing proud, chugging relentlessly ahead like a steam engine, and panting with fevered expectation. The origins of life are ready for their next chapter.

DEBRA CRAINE

DEE CONWAY



Genesis Canyon flourishes in its natural habitat, the Natural History Museum

POP: Heroic return for local heroes; but a disappointing house for a maestro of blues guitar

Still waters run deep

Blue Nile
Glasgow

CASUAL visitors to Glasgow could be tricked into thinking that even its civic planners wanted to celebrate the worth of this self-effacing pop band. The word Nile occurs repeatedly, on street signs and in the neon scribed above bars and cafés. Then there are the potential homages to Paul Buchanan, the Blue Nile's chief composer and lead singer.

The Royal Concert Hall is to be found at the top of Buchanan Street. You can eat there in its Buchanan Restaurant. The vast mall under construction next door is to be called the Buchanan Galleries . . . and, emerging onto the bustling, rain-wet streets at the end of Friday's first of four sold-out performances at the venue, it felt only appropriate that the city should seem to belong to him.

Perhaps the beauty of the Blue Nile's music stems from its purity of intent, maintained despite a 12-year career in a largely impure industry. Releases have been infrequent — *A Walk Across The Rooftops* (1984), *Hats* (1990), *Peace At Last* (earlier this year) — and there has been only one previous tour, six years ago. While such reticence may have earned the band a mistaken reputation as studio obsessives, it has allowed the records to stand on their own merit, free of hype. Linking them across the years has been both Buchanan's gloriously soul-inspired voice, and his approach to lyric-writing — small things are described in Blue Nile songs, but in them lie the clues to realise a bigger picture.

Here, with partners Paul Joseph Moore and Robert Bell, he delivered material ranging from the early 1980s to a current single, *Happiness*, with unswerving force, inspiring one of many hecklers in a devoted audience to mock-chide: "You should do this for a living." Buchanan, whose words and voice can wring the heart, grinned and shuffled his feet. But later, during the ovation, there was no basking in its adoration. Instead, he and his band clapped hands towards the footlights in thanks. Unusual pop stars indeed.

ALAN JACKSON

Old dog's new tricks

Otis Grand
Empire, W12

HE WAS born in Beirut, brought up in California, and now tours the world, but we can still claim Otis Grand as a British blues guitar hero — mainly because he has been based in the UK since 1986 and possibly because you do not argue with someone who, in the words of Howlin' Wolf, is built for comfort. Indeed, one of the more disquieting moments of the evening was when the well-built Mr Grand manoeuvred himself offstage and proceeded to wander through the crowd, fixing anyone who caught his eye with a stare that would unsettle a cobra while all the time playing a virtuoso guitar solo.

Otis Grand is an artist who doesn't follow the normal rules. For a start, he is one of the few blues men who is as eloquent offstage, when he is talking about the music, as he is on, when he is actually playing it. He is also willing to build on the blues tradition and, as his new album on the Sequel label, *Perfume and Grime*, shows, even take it into the funk and rap age.

Backed by what he called his big blues band — Otis on lead with rhythm, bass, drums, keyboard, trumpet and sax plus vocalist Roy Oakley — he introduced material from the album including the self-penned *Between Heaven & Hell*, and the slow but expressive *Six Ways*, which highlighted Grand's fluid guitar work.

The only reservation was over vocalist Oakley, who seemed to believe that he was James Brown and tried to prove it by throwing in the odd scream. But if anyone should have been allowed to scream it was Grand himself. For despite giving us his best, the audience, enthusiastic as it was, was less than capacity. For an artist who has been voted Best British Blues Guitarist six times in a row, it was less than fitting. Still, it failed to dampen Grand's spirits and after a deft rendition of *Johnny B Goode* he gave us one of the best tracks on the new album, *She's Got my Dog*. It showed that Grand, Old Blues Dog that he is, still has new tricks to teach us.

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LAW

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Two men and a baby: what of the law?

Chris Barton reviews recent cases that challenge some common assumptions about parenthood, modern relationships and the rights of parental responsibility



Martin Adams and William Zachs with Sarah Clare, conceived through artificial insemination

William Zachs and his homosexual partner, Martin Adams, revealed recently that they are bringing up a daughter, Sarah Clare. Another couple, Steph and her partner, Sharron, were featured on *Child of Mine*, a Channel 4 documentary about lesbian parents. They, too, are bringing up a child — a little boy who, like Sarah Clare, was conceived through artificial insemination.

The cases challenge some old assumptions. Until recently, both procreation and parenthood proceeded on standard lines. A woman and a man did what came naturally and consequently they sometimes became "mother" and "father".

Having managed that, such couples were not required to demonstrate parenting skills to justify their procreative abilities. The woman would often be married, thereby resolving the difficulty, supposedly inherent in the nature of human reproduction, of identifying the "father".

The first challenge to this monopoly came from scientific advances. DNA testing can now identify the father, and new methods of assisted reproduction can give a child two natural mothers, one genetic and one biological.

But though technology cannot yet realise same-sex procreation, Mr Zachs and Mr Adams seem to have achieved *de facto* co-parenthood. In asking whether English law would recognise their status, we should also consider the anonymous lesbian couple who want the fertilised egg of one of them to be implanted in the other, and Stephen Whittle, the female-to-male transsexual, who wishes to be registered as the father of his partner's child.

While many will find it difficult to separate these three cases, the law already does so. Sarah Clare is with us because Dr Zachs paid a woman to be artificially inseminated with his sperm and then to hand the baby over.

Not being married to the mother, Dr Zachs would not, unlike her, have automatic "parental responsibility" under English law. But he would be Sarah Clare's legal "father", and incur a potential duty under, for example, the Child Support Acts 1991 and 1995, as well as a right to apply for a "parental responsibility" order from the court under the Children Act 1989.

Sarah Clare would need to have lived with the couple for at least three years before Mr Adams could apply as of right, but he could do so immediately with leave of the court. Such an order would give him most of "all the rights and authority which by law a parent has in relation to a child".

The two lesbians have had their request refused by the Ethics Committee of King's College Hospital on the limited ground that such treatment should be available only to the infertile. Had the women achieved their aim, the baby's position would anyway have differed from Sarah Clare's.

Under the Human Fertilisation and Embryology Act 1990, the woman who gave birth would be the mother. There would be no legal father, because the Act specifically excludes the consenting donor from that role, allowing his place to filled by the woman's male partner. (The latter qualifies only where the couple have received joint "treatment services" from a licensed clinic; if not, the sperm donor would retain legal fatherhood, irrespective of his wishes or intentions.)

What of Mr Whittle, the newly male trans-sexual, who wishes to be registered as the father of his female partner's child under the Births and Deaths Registration Act 1953? For the moment, the honesty of the couple's approach must frustrate their ambitions.

Such registration depends on the mother agreeing to the father's registration, or on the couple being married. They have not pretended that Mr Whittle is the child's natural father, and his sex change is not recognised under English law at all, let alone for the purpose of allowing him to marry in his chosen gender.

To rectify the non-recognition, he must look to the European Court of Human Rights, which has come closer to such acknowledgement each time it has considered the matter. These dry legal rules do not, of course, begin to address the two real issues, which are whether marriage should be available to such couples (thus permitting joint adoption of children) and whether, in the case of homosexual pairs, it is appropriate for them to act as co-parents.

As it happens, neither the 1989 Danish "Law on Registered Partnerships" nor its 1994 Swedish equivalent, include adoption rights in the quasi-marital status that they confer upon same-sex partners.

Yet even the comparatively liberal objections mounted against such parenting — that the children would be denied the role models of both mother and father, that they would be more likely to become gay themselves and that they would face peer derision — has not been borne out by the results of a number of empirical surveys in America.

Nearer home, in August this year, the Scottish Court of Session held that there was no fundamental objection in principle to an application for the adoption of a young disabled boy by a homosexual man who proposed to bring him up jointly with his male partner. It was held that the applicant should be treated as an individual, not a member of a class; the need to safeguard the child's welfare was paramount — and that a judge's personal views or private beliefs are irrelevant.

As for cruder objections, some people still need reminding that homosexuals are no more likely than heterosexuals to be pederasts.

● *The author is Professor of Family Law at Staffordshire University.*

Adam Vaitilingham on working on a tropical island

Sand in my briefs, sun on my hat

■ *ADVERTISEMENTS for legal work on some tropical island frequently appear in* The Times. *This is what it is like to work in the West Indies.*

It was a September day and, having endured the grind of 12 months' pupillage, I was in the Middle Temple library studying the careers page in *The Times*. Uninspired by the repetitive offers of corporate work in the City, I found my eyes caught by an ad seeking a young lawyer to work in a country of which I had never heard. Several interviews and three hectic months later, I had been offered the job and I was escaping the English winter. I was en route to Providenciales, the booming financial and tourist heart of the Turks & Caicos Islands in the British West Indies. I had few clues about what to expect, but the place turned out to be the quintessential tropics, with white beaches and turquoise sea.



Paradise — or just hard work?

My firm had only three lawyers and so I was thrown straight in at the deep end. Most of our work involved offshore finance, an area of law that I knew next to nothing about, and the rest was general advice for clients in the islands, bits and pieces of contract, employment and property law.

There were entertaining moments in the local magistrates' court — I once reached the dizzy heights of defending a hotel client on a charge of possessing undersized lobster tails — and more testing times in the Court of Appeal in the Bahamas. I was given far more responsibility than I would have had at a similar level in England and worked harder than I had expected, but there were no gratuitous long hours just to keep the boss happy — that feeling so familiar to junior lawyers in the City.

My experience was pretty much the same as the other young professionals in the Turks & Caicos and to many of our peers in nearby places such as Bermuda, the Cayman Islands and the British Virgin Islands. Most of the lawyers had taken a chance and come to work for a small local firm with two or three partners. The accountants, on the other hand, had all been seconded from their positions with the big established firms in the UK and were expected to return to the fold after a couple of years offshore. There was a unanimous feeling of liberation from the stuffy confines of the professions in our home countries.

Away from work, a tax-free salary meant that an apartment right on the beach was easily affordable and a bank loan for the necessary car a formality. Savings stacked up (partly, it must be said, because there were few outlets for spending).

The islanders were easy-going and I met adventurous people from all over the world. We swam in the ocean before and after work and spent weekends sailing or diving around the nearby cays and deserted islands. We played football against teams of illegal immigrants from Haiti (refugees from the troubles in their country 70 miles to the south), and cricket against the Antiguans and Barbadians who made up the local police force.

That was the positive side of life in the islands. On the other hand, the savings were needed to finance ambitious holidays — essential to compensate for the lack of cultural amenities and the social claustrophobia of living on a tiny island. The attitude of many of the expatriates towards the islanders and the disparity in wealth between the two groups caused some friction, and at times I felt about as welcome in both camps as one of the seasonal hurricanes.

But despite the limitations, I stayed beyond my two-year contract period, and it took a lot to tear me away.

You may think that it takes courage to pack up and start a new life in the West Indies, but I am not so sure. If the chance comes along, you should ask yourself only a couple of questions. First, can you risk stepping off the conventional career path? When you come back to England, some would-be employers will pass you by because you have got sand in your shoes or the sun has addled your brain. Any worthwhile employer, though, will recognise the extra dimension that the experience has given you and be glad to snap you up. Secondly, can you leave your friends and family and frantic social life? For me, going away invigorated my friendships (most of them took the chance to visit).

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INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

LINK can't be beaten

MR Justice Brooke, former chairman of the Law Commission, has joined a lively discussion of the lawyers' electronic network, LINK. Under the heading of Spanking v Beating, the Court of Appeal judge commends a Law Commission paper for an up-to-date statement of the law on "lawful correction". The publication is, Mr Justice Brooke says, available in all reputable libraries and should, he adds, be available on the Internet. This might spare the blushes of lawyers who don't want to be heard in libraries asking for something on "lawful correction".

Judge promotion

LORD Goff of Chievely has been appointed senior Law Lord in place of Lord Keith of Kinkel who retired yesterday. Lord Goff, the second senior Law Lord since 1994, becomes the highest-sitting judge in the land, in that he heads the House of Lords Judicial Committee. But Lord Bingham of Cornhill is the most senior practising judge in judicial-hierarchy — although he presides over a lower court, the Court of Appeal.

Lord Goff: new role

Cue the chairman

LORD Justice Rose annoyed women barristers at the Bar Council conference on Saturday. To a suggestion that the Bar was a hostile environment for women, he answered that on the contrary, he could think of "one or two examples, and happily they are few, where women have been appointed when, if they had been men of comparable ability, they would not have been".

Professor Mary McAleese, Pro Vice-Chancellor of Queen's University, Belfast, said that there was need to change the profession's culture of complacency, "a little of which I heard resonating in Sir Christopher's attitude".

Black Power

LAWYERS from the ethnic minorities are at a premium in New York and law firms are paying up to $8,000 just for the chance to interview 12 of them at a job fair. Each extra interview costs $2,500. Under New York Bar rules, 10 per cent of firms' annual intake should be from a minority, but there are not enough qualified candidates to go round.

Fund-raiser

THE QCs Cherie Booth, Patricia Scotland and Presiley Baxendale were among 100 women at the 25th birthday party last week hosted by Denton Hall for Refuge, the women's charity, of which Ms Booth is a trustee. The event raised £3,000.

Sevens up

MORE THAN 30 London law firms are competing in the annual Law Society Sevens rugby tournament sponsored by the bankers Rea Brothers at Richmond Athletic Ground, south London, on Sunday. The prize is the Freshfields Bowl (the firm has won ten times in 12 years).

Roger Looker, corporate finance director, who also chairs the Harlequins Rugby Club, will present the bowl to the winners. If it's Freshfields again, law firms are threatening legal action.

SCRIVENOR

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Full service with strong international connections, especially in Europe, this progressive medium sized firm has its principal office in the City. The imminent retirement of the highly regarded head of the property department has created a need for a senior practitioner of proven ability to join the team and to undertake a considerable volume of existing work. This embraces all aspects of the property field: investment, development, secured lending, the property aspects of share and business acquisitions and disposals, business leases, landlord and tenant matters and estate management.

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Thriving employment department offering a full range service to its own clients, in addition to assisting other departments within this high profile city firm, has scope for an additional 2-4 year pqe employment lawyer wishing to make their mark. Leading names in the field head a strong team of lawyers (including those providing pensions and benefits advice).

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For further information in complete confidence, please contact Seamus Hoar on 0171 405 6062 (0171 403 5727 evenings/weekends) or write to him at Quarry Dougall Recruitment, 37-41 Bedford Row, London, WCIR 4JH. Confidential Fax: 0171 831 6394. This assignment is being handled on a exclusive basis by Quarry Dougall and any direct or third party applications will be forwarded to them.

CHAMBERS

Subject to References

An offer of a job is always a pleasure to receive. It is a vote of confidence in you, backed up by money and position. But then, in the last paragraph, there are the mean, suspicious words: 'This offer is subject to satisfactory references'. They are probably a formality, but you're not quite sure. What if your reference is poor? What if your employer is upset by the fact that you're leaving? Doubts begin to multiply. There is always someone who doesn't get on with you. What if they ask them?

In our experience, poor references are extremely rare. Most partners give honest references, and do not allow personal feelings to interfere.

Occasionally, things can go wrong. One of our candidates recently had to give as a referee her former supervising partner. The reference was taken one afternoon at around three o'clock. Unfortunately, the partner had just returned from a long and merry lunch, and gave such a flamboyant and eccentric reference that the employers felt unwilling to proceed with the offer. We had to persuade them to take a reference from another partner who knew her well in order to get the offer confirmed.

Sometimes, of course, there really is a problem about references. All you can then do is warn your prospective employers and explain the circumstances.

Michael Chambers

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Telecoms - to £45,000+ London/Home Counties
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INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

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- company and contract law
- lending documentation
- ISDA documentation structure

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INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

هكذا من الأصل

صكذا من الاصل

Solicitor tries to crash the notaries' party

Christopher Stoakes says the cosy world of the scrivener is under attack

Most notaries are solicitors, so it is easy to assume that notaries are part of the legal profession. In fact, notaries are a separate profession. They draw up, attest and certify deeds. They trace their origins back to Roman times when they acted as recorders of transactions.

In the Middle Ages they were educated scribes under the aegis of the Church. When Henry VIII renounced the Pope's authority, he set up a notarial body called the Court of Faculties under the Archbishop of Canterbury. It still exists. There are about 1,000 notaries around Britain. The idea is that each provincial centre large enough to support one should have one. It is hard to survive as a notary alone which is why so many are also solicitors. The London branch is more select. There are 29 there, called scriveners. They have been going since 1616.

Relations between solicitors and notaries are good. Tony Girling, the Law Society President, is a solicitor and a notary; Barry O'Meara, a consultant with City solicitors Rowe & Maw, has just been elected Master of the Worshipful Company of Scriveners. But all is not rosy in the scriveners' garden.

Mark Smith, a solicitor with Prince Evans, a London law firm, has been waging war against the scriveners. He wants to be one and they will not accept him. Mr Smith has spotted that notaries on the Continent can make a particularly good living, because they have turned their monopolies, conferred by civil law, over the incorporation of companies, conveyancing and mortgage work, into lucrative commercial practice. In principle, all Mr Smith should have to do is qualify as a notary in the UK — preferably as a scrivener because he works in London — then assert his right under the European directive on the mutual recognition of professional qualifications to establish a notarial practice on the Continent.

The problem is qualifying as a notary. To become a notary outside London, one has to pass the examinations set by the Court of Faculties, and then be supervised by a notary for two years. A solicitor has to sit just two papers — one on notarial practice and one on bills of exchange, because notaries have a specialisation in negotiable instruments.

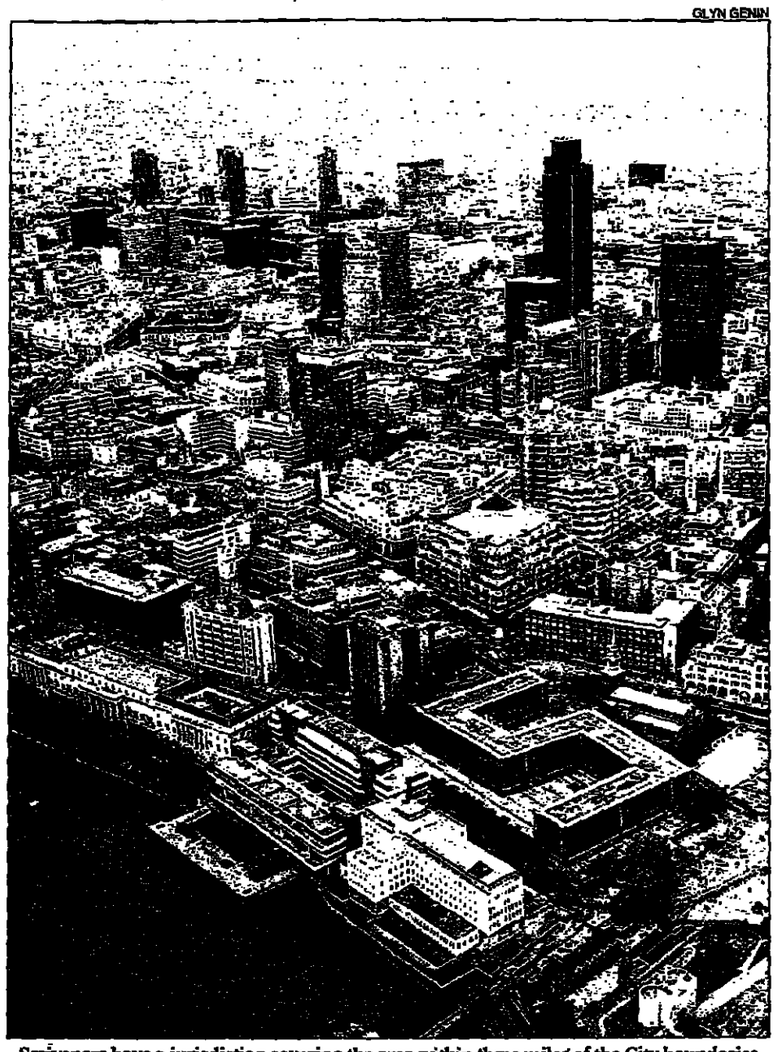
But to become a scrivener requires an apprenticeship of not two but five years. Vacancies are few. Scriveners have an exclusive jurisdiction covering the area within three miles of the boundaries of the City. This monopoly, dating from 1373, was reaffirmed by the Courts and Legal Services Act 1990. The scriveners argue that there is not enough work to support a lot of them practising exclusively as such, and that free competition could lead to their extinction.

Seeking to establish a practice on the Continent would seem a good solution, but notaries in the UK have not sought to push their European colleagues into mutual recognition of their qualifications. Mr Smith says: "Instead of the mutual recognition of professional qualifications, what we have here is the mutual recognition of monopolies."

If Mr Smith succeeds, the floodgates could open. Lawyers in the UK would qualify as notaries and establish practices on the Continent. Leading City firms with offices on the Continent would be able to augment the services they offered clients.

English firms tend to be larger than their continental counterparts, so local notaries might find it hard to withstand the Anglo-Saxon onslaught.

GLYN GENIN



Scriveners have a jurisdiction covering the area within three miles of the City boundaries

Lawyers hit a high note

Alasdair Steven on a scheme to introduce legal trainees to opera

The Lord Chancellor in Gilbert and Sullivan's enduring *Iolanthe* may have considered that "the law is the true embodiment of everything that's excellent", but it is doubtful whether the wily old buzzard was also referring to opera. Yet today's hard-pressed law students seem keen to take time off from study to dip their toes into the operatic pool.

The new production of Verdi's *La traviata* at the English National Opera, which opened its season last month, was an obvious box-office winner with famous tunes, lots of love duets, forlorn love, the girl dying in high dudgeon and direction by Dr Jonathan Miller. Dr Miller has a track record among ENO audiences, as his historic production of the mafioso *Rigoletto*, also by Verdi, has been popular for almost two decades.

So it seemed an ideal cocktail to set the season off with a bang and to introduce the City merchant bank Schroder, a new sponsor to the Coliseum.

As well as helping to finance production, the bank decided to encourage the young into an opera house. So attractive was the idea that the bank won extra funds from the Department of National Heritage's Pairing Scheme.

It is called Discover Opera and allowed 25 per cent off the price of tickets at the Coliseum for graduates who are on a training scheme. The lucky recipients received not only a card that allowed them discounted tickets, but also a bottle of champagne on their first visit.

The ENO went into overdrive nine months ago and after many calls it sent out 500 packs explaining the procedure. But they had to close the allocations after 300 replies. "It is a pilot scheme," said Jane Livingstone of the ENO, "and funds were limited."

The Coliseum aimed the scheme primarily at professional firms, banks and leading industrial concerns throughout the South East.

The response was heavy, principally from legal firms. Seventy per cent of those who have been granted the offer were from City law firms. Leading the operatic-legal league table were Freshfields and then Macfarlanes.

Ms Livingstone says: "We wanted to bridge the gap between the existing offers we have for school children, and the young executives who may be in London on their first job.

"The Discover Opera plan was a joint venture between Schroder and ourselves. It has been a refreshingly successful operation."

Freshfields admitted that it was taken aback by its opera-loving graduates. A spokesman said: "We do have an internal scheme that makes tickets available to our staff. That takes in the ENO, the Barbican and some musicals, but I didn't realise we were budding Domingos."

Certainly, Covent Garden confirmed that it, too, has "many lawyers, barristers and judges" among its regulars. So it is a shame that the profession is not better represented on the stage.

There are often doddery old notaries who come on (Mozart's *Così fan tutte*, and *The Marriage of Figaro*) to marry the wrong soprano to the wrong tenor, but no meaty roles given over entirely to legal eagles. Except dear old G and S. But, then, Gilbert trained as a barrister.

● *La traviata is at the Coliseum until November 15.*

Stalkers must beware in Scotland

Last week the Home Secretary indicated that he wanted to press ahead urgently with laws to outlaw stalking. The recent attempts in the English courts to use other offences to prosecute alleged stalkers underline the problems of a criminal system based largely on statute law.

Last week's conviction of Clarence Morris in Southwark Crown Court, south London, on a charge of assault against Perry Southall by a campaign of harassment was preceded a few days before by the acquittal at Inner London Crown Court of Dennis Chambers on a charge of assaulting Margaret Bent by frequently following her home and telephoning her.

To Scottish eyes, it appears that English lawyers are tying themselves in knots over the necessity for proof of the requisite criminal state of mind on the part of the defendant and also on proof of some psychological or other damage suffered by the victims. MPs have declared the need for a new statute dealing with stalking. In Scotland, no such problems arise. Proceeding at common law on the wide and flexible charge of breach of the peace, there would have been no difficulty in securing a conviction in Mr Chambers's case.

All that is required for that charge to be proved against an accused person is that there is the potential for alarm. There is no need to prove that alarm actually occurred. So when more than 100 years ago on a quiet Sunday night patrol two police officers in Stranraer heard the sound of drunken singing coming from private property, the court convicted the carousing songbird — although nobody complained.

Breach of the peace, then, can be a victimless crime. Even when someone is putting themselves forward as the victim, it is not necessary to prove that they suffered any form of actual hurt. The difficulties experienced by the prosecution on the point of psychological form in the case against Mr Chambers would not have been experienced north of the border.

Stalking and similar anti-social sexually motivated behaviour has been dealt with in the Scottish courts on a common-law basis for many years, without any drama or crisis. Simple it may be. But it is extremely sensible.

ALISTAIR BONNINGTON

● *The author is lecturer in law at the University of Glasgow.*

● *Letters, page 17*

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هكذا من الأصل

Edward Fennell finds that the quality of information technology will shape the speed, accuracy and even the success of a practice

Law firms are only as good as the software

It is only a small exaggeration to say that a law firm is only as good as its information technology. Spending on computer equipment is huge and represents one of the three most important decisions that partners can take (the others being whether to merge or move). The legal trade press regularly carries articles about new products and applications. And earlier this year Professor Richard Susskind published his much discussed book *The Future of Law — Facing the Challenge of Information Technology*, which may turn out to be the seminal test of the way in which the practice of law will develop.

The upshot is that lawyers now find themselves akin to engineering manufacturers. The quality of their technology will shape the speed, accuracy and sophistication of their product. Running a law firm with defunct information technology will be the fastest way to become uncompetitive. Many lawyers, especially the older ones, are still averse to computers and are uncomfortable at a keyboard. Their preference would be to cultivate clients personally and to provide advice based on experience. That role is still crucial, but no longer enough. Big firms undertaking large transactions or pushing through a high volume of standard processes depend on their technology.

What is more, clients demand it. As Neal Cameron, one of the best consultants in the field and a lawyer, observes: "The most powerful drivers in this market are the clients themselves, who already make extensive use of information technology. Frankly, not having up-to-date IT is no longer an option for most firms because their corporate clients will insist on it."

This vision of the future has a familiar ring for those who follow the wider IT debate. It consists of "virtual law firms" offering advice through the Internet and delivering their products in routine cases with little, if any, human intervention. Legal know-how will be captured within a computer's "mind" and power might pass into the hands of "legal information engineers".

A latent legal market will develop as the use of mass production cuts sharply the price of legal products. The current argument that legal services are too expensive could be turned on its head as legal advice and processes are packaged in cheap modules.

The vision is clear but the timescale is uncertain. Stuart Holden, of Axxia Systems, a specialist supplier of IT for lawyers, says: "Service-based businesses such as the law may be the last bastion to cling to the old way; but the lure of increased profits by the effective deployment of computers is too strong to be resisted."

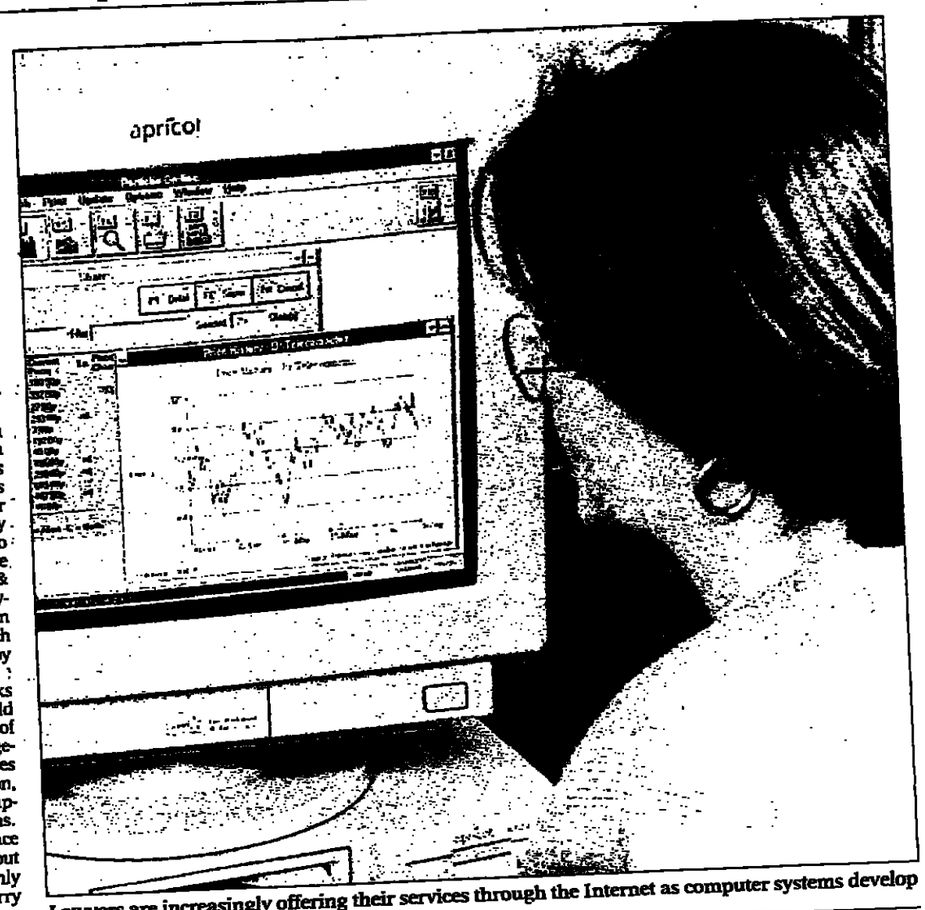
This view was endorsed by John O'Neill, of Avenue Legal Systems, who says: "In law firms, productivity is all-important because clients are looking for low charges and value for money. IT can therefore play a key role in raising profitability. The challenge here for suppliers is to refine constantly what they are offering. For example, Blake Lapthorne, the leading south coast firm, bought a new debt recovery system from Beever in July.

The firm's litigation partner, Nicholas Poole, was quoted as saying: 'Being a regional player in litigation and commercial work, we demand the very best from information technology. We were impressed by a supplier's substantial commitment to Windows 95 and their understanding of the debt-recovery process'."

For suppliers that combine an appreciation of legal processes with technological skills, the market is promising. The top London firms are paying millions of pounds for their systems, but even relatively small law firms are now having to invest heavily. For example, the West Country firm of Cann & Hallett, which has only 23 employees, has recently spent £100,000 on a system. This means that each member of staff is backed up by £4,500 of hardware.

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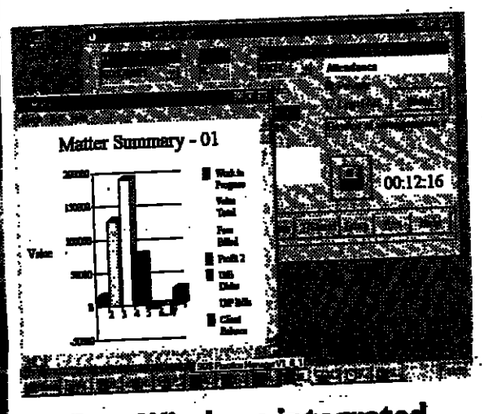


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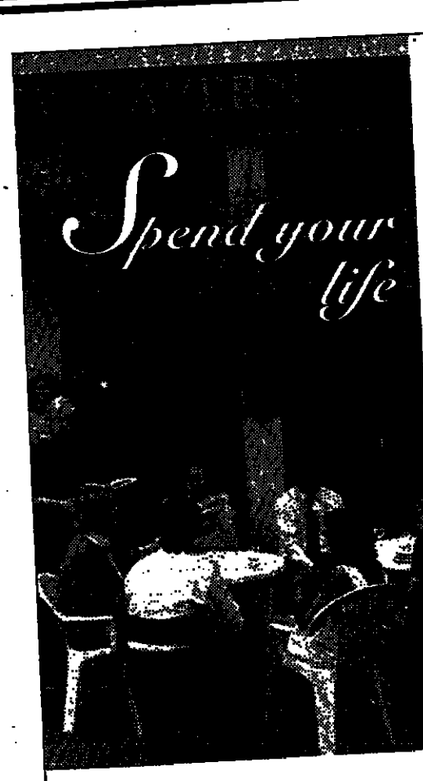
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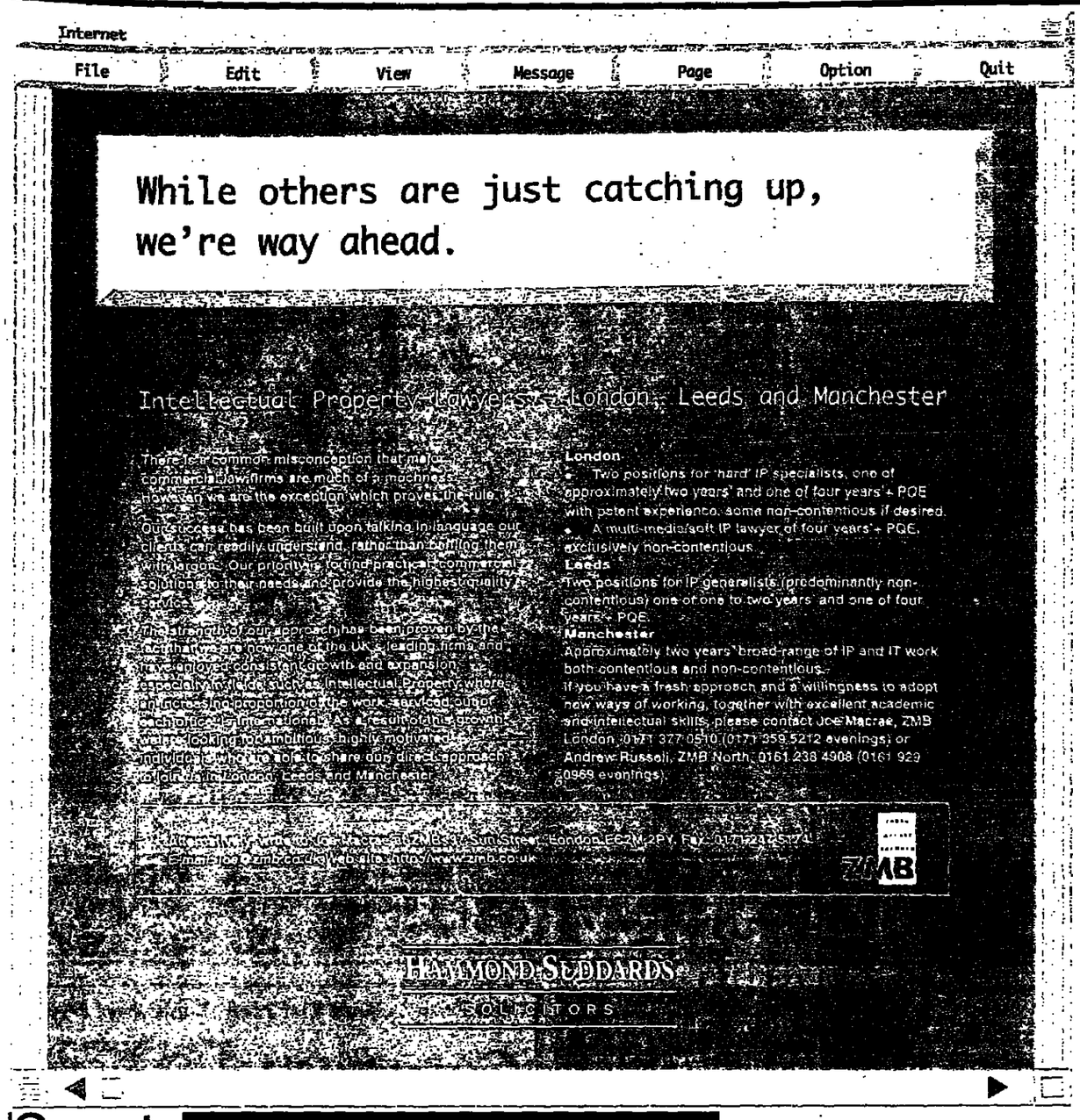
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RACING: UNCERTAINTY SURROUNDS GODOLPHIN RUNNER'S CHALLENGE FOR LONGCHAMP PRIZE

Classic Cliche doubtful for Arc attempt

BY RICHARD EVANS, RACING CORRESPONDENT

EVERYBODY knows the feeling, especially on a Monday morning. You are a bit below par, slightly down in the dumps or a shade off colour. Nothing really to worry about — unless you have to run for your life at the weekend.

Pardon the pun, but Classic Cliche is showing all the classic signs of being under a cloud and the mysterious behaviour looks increasingly likely to threaten his participation in the Forte-Meridien Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe at Longchamp on Sunday.

"He's just not Classic Cliche. We know when he is because he's like a tiger," Simon Crisford, Godolphin's racing manager, said yesterday. The Ascot Gold Cup winner hinted he was feeling listless last Friday when disappointing on the Newmarket gallops. He was just led out of his stable for a walk on Saturday morning before an intended canter on Sunday. Classic Cliche was not up to it and the canter was cancelled.

"He cantered this morning and the crucial thing was for him to be OK. There is nothing physically or clinically wrong with him. At no stage has the horse had a temperature or been lame; he has not scoped bad and his blood has not been out. It's just his attitude, a little bit flattened out," Crisford added.

"The way the race is shaping up, with soft ground and a small field, everything is in our favour but obviously we won't run him unless we are completely happy with him. We are in a predicament. We don't want to get it wrong, run him and find we have no horse left for the Breeders' Cup or the Melbourne Cup. On the other hand, if the horse is fine we don't want to give up an opportunity when everything about the race is right for Classic Cliche.

"It is nip and tuck six days before the Arc. To win a race like this you need everything to go smoothly. We will see how he is tonight, tomorrow morning and the next day before making a decision. I think the horse will tell us."

While Sheikh Mohammed and his Godolphin team wait nervously for Classic Cliche's pronouncement, across the Channel the leading French contenders for the Arc completed a final workout without a hitch yesterday.

The André Fabre-trained pair Sunshack and Swain completed an easy ten-furlong spin on Les Aigles gallop, before the Elie Lellouche-trained and Olivier Peslier-ridden Helissio joined four other horses in a gallop. On a muggy morning, the Arc favourite was a little warm beforehand but satisfied trainer and jockey. "It was a nice piece of work. I just want to keep him fresh for the big day," Lellouche said.

Darazari, who finished a length behind Helissio in the Prix Niel at Longchamp 16 days ago, pleased Alain de Royer Dupré when galloping with three other runners over ten furlongs.

With the probability of a smaller field than usual at Longchamp on Sunday, when the ground is likely to be on the soft side of good, the connections of My Emma, trained by Rae Guest at Newmarket, are probably going to supplement her on Thursday at a cost of £52,000.

Ian Matthews, who owns the half-sister to Classic Cliche, had been thinking in terms of an Arc campaign next season, but Guest said yesterday: "She's in such sparkling form, which is why we are thinking about it, and the race is cutting up. If the ground is on the soft side it would suit us and not a lot of the other horses."

The doubts concerning Classic Cliche have prompted Ladbrokes to revise its Arc betting. Helissio leads the market at 11-4 with Swain cut from 6-1 to 9-2. The company then bets: 5-1 Darazari and Zagreb, 8-1 Pentire, 12-1 Pilsudski and Shaamit, 14-1 Oscar Schindler, 20-1 others. Classic Cliche is offered at 6-1 "with a run".

☐ Mark Johnston, the trainer, has almost given up hope of finding a backer to sponsor a Melbourne Cup challenge by Double Trigger. "I don't think he will be going," Johnston said yesterday.

Dettori fever, page 52



Gold Cup winner, Classic Cliche, right, is not a certain Arc runner. Photograph: Julian Herbert

RICHARD EVANS

Nap: ABOU ZOUZ (2.05 Newmarket)
Next best: Dazzle (3.45 Newmarket)

Pipe considers replacement for Bridgwater

BY OUR RACING STAFF

MARTIN PIPE will bide his time before replacing David Bridgwater, who has resigned as the stable's retained jockey. Pipe intends to offer rides to the champion jockey, Tony McCoy, as well as using Chris Maude, the stable's regular back-up to Bridgwater.

"There's no rush to get anyone else as the majority of my better horses won't be running until November," Pipe said yesterday. "If the likes of Tony McCoy are available this week, we'll use them."

Pipe had no inkling that Bridgwater was about to resign. "It was a total surprise," he said yesterday. "He telephoned me at 5.45 on the way back from Newton Abbot on Sunday and that was the first I'd heard."

The jockey's surprise decision came as the National Hunt season begins to get into full swing with Chepstow staging the Free Handicap Hurdle and the Mercedes Benz Handicap Chase on Saturday. However, he had decided he would be better served by riding as a freelance and claimed that the partnership, which produced 111 winners from 428 rides, had ended amicably.

Although Pipe was reluctant to be drawn on appointing a successor to Bridgwater, Norman Williamson emerged as a likely replacement. "I am happy freelancing and will be spending a lot of time in Ireland, but if I was offered the job I would have to rethink my plans."

There was increasing speculation yesterday that Bridgwater will ride regularly for Darren Mercer, who removed all his horses, including Banjo and Escartefigue, from Pipe's yard two weeks ago. Bridgwater said yesterday: "I am going freelance and I have had a lot of calls from trainers for whom I used to ride."

Nigel Twiston-Davies, one of the trainers who has previously called upon Bridgwater, said: "There will be rides for him, but Carl Llewellyn will continue as my number one jockey."

Chepstow acceptors

2.15 MERCEDES BENZ HANDICAP CHASE (£7,103: 3m) (17 five-day acceptors)

Andros Prince (trained by Miss A Embiricos), Badassian (P Hobbs), Big Ben Dun (C Brooks), Certain Angle (P Hobbs), Evangelica (M Pipe), Florida Sky (C Brooks), Frozen Drop (P Rutchens), General Crack (P Nicholls), Glenfinn Princess (Mrs M Jones), Good For A Laugh (G Harm), Grange Brake (N Twiston-Davies), Hillwalk (R Curtis), Ifese (P Bowen), Rainbow Castle (P Nicholls), Samlae (P Hobbs), Tartan Tradewinds (G Richards), Wrekengale (Mrs J Pitman)

2.50 FREE HANDICAP HURDLE (4-Y-O: £6,947: 2m 110yd) (13 five-day acceptors)

Alltime Dancer (O Sherwood), Faustino (P Hobbs), Hamilton Silk (M Pipe), Hand Woven (N Twiston-Davies), Holders Hill (M Meaghen), Iktasab (P Nicholls), Love The Blues (D Nicholson), Mim-Lou-And (Miss H Knight), Our Kris (N Henderson), Reaganesque (P Murphy), Rising Dough (G L Moore), Sparkling Yasmin (P Hobbs), Yubralee (M Pipe)

Dazzle can shine in Cheveley Park

NEWMARKET
CHANNEL 4



TODAY'S RACES ON TELEVISION

2.05: **Abou Zouz** holds outstanding claims and should not be opposed. Unlike previous winners of this race who, at best, were placed in listed or group company, the Wafic Said-owned colt has won the group two Gimcrack Stakes. That form has worked out particularly well with the fourth, Easycall, subsequently winning the Flying Childers Stakes at Doncaster and the third, The West, finishing runner-up in the group one Prix de la Salamandre.

At the start of the season, the selection was rated as one of the trainer's best juveniles. After winning on his debut here, he disappointed on soft-ish ground at Kempton — when the yard was out of form — but confirmed his ability at York. A high draw has proved a big advantage in the four runnings of this race (21, 28, 16 and 18 were the winning stalls), which increases confidence behind Frankie Dettori's mount.

Swiss Law, drawn in an adjacent stall, is well regarded but will need to improve upon his third to the Loder-trained Tycoon Todd at York. Mukaddar and Blane Water look best of the rest.

3.45: Trainers often follow the same path with their best horses, which may offer a clue to this race. Criquette Head won the 1987 Cheveley Park with Ravinella, who had previously won a newcomers' race at Deauville and the Prix d'Arenberg at Evry, the two races won by her runner today. In between those two victories, Pas De Reponse was third in the Prix Morny, the same position filled by Ma Biche, who won this race in 1982 for Head.

The Danzig filly deserves her chance but must improve to test the unbeaten Dazzle. The Michael Stoute-trained filly has looked potentially top class when winning the Windsor Castle Stakes on her debut and the Cherry Hinton Stakes in an outstanding time. She has been saved for this race and her trainer will have her spot on.

Arethusa, withdrawn at an earlier forfeit stage, has been supplemented at a cost of £12,000 and is a threat, along with Moonlight Paradise. The latter has moved to Godolphin since finishing a short-head second to Seebe in the Princess Margaret Stakes at Ascot.

RICHARD EVANS

NEWMARKET

THUNDERER

1.30 Spillo
2.05 Papua
2.35 Opulent
3.10 Catechism
3.45 Moonlight Paradise
4.20 Royal Crown

The Times Private Handicapper's top rating: 2.05 ABOU ZOUZ

Our Newmarket Correspondent: 2.05 Abou Zouz. 3.45 DAZZLE (nap). 4.20 Chivalric.

GOING: GOOD TO FIRM — DRAW: NO ADVANTAGE
TOTE JACKPOT METTING — SIS

1.30 NGK SPARK PLUGS RATED HANDICAP (£8,068: 1m 4f) (9 runners)

101	(4)	404000	IONIO 24 (CD,F,G) (Dayspring Company) C Brittain 5-8-7	M Roberts	98
102	(3)	5146	SMART PLAY 18 (D,F) (Mrs G Ward) Mrs J Cecil 3-8-5	J Reid	96
103	(2)	155	MAIDEN CASTLE 18 (S) (Sheikh Mohammed) J Gosden 3-8-4	L Dettori	90
104	(1)	432401	SPILLO 18 (D,F) (Mrs L Corrigan) L Cumani 3-8-3	K Darley	96
105	(6)	121031	DEAR LIFE 28 (D,F) (Lady Ga Tricker) Mrs J Cecil 3-8-0	Martin Dwyer (5)	95
106	(7)	11-0025	BEYOND DOUBT 20 (D,F,S) (The Queen) Lord Huntingdon 4-8-13	D Harrison	95
107	(9)	3154	FITZWILLIAM 24 (F) (P Mellon) I Balding 5-8-9	T Quinn	99
108	(8)	603-030	VAUGRENIER 155 (D,BF,F) (I Tavgeten) R Hannon 4-8-7	Dane O'Neill	91
109	(5)	240221	POLAR CHAMP 21 (V,F) (P Clark) S Woods 3-8-1	D Biggs	92

BETTING: 4-1 Dear Life, Spillo, 9-2 Beyond Doubt, Smart Play, 11-2 Maiden Castle, 6-1 Fitzwilliam, 11-1 Polar Champ, 20-1 others.

1995: SECKAR VALE 3-7-13 W Carson (4-1) B Hills 8 ran

FORM FOCUS

IONIO 16l 7th of 12 to Dacha in handicap at Haydock (1m 4f, good to firm). SMART PLAY about 10l 6th of 9 to Busy Flight in listed race at Doncaster (1m 4f, good to firm). MAIDEN CASTLE 2½l 4th of 6 to Forest Buck in conditions race at Doncaster (1m 2f 60yd, good to firm). SPILLO best Daunt 14l in 13-runner handicap at Doncaster (1m 4f, good to firm). DEAR LIFE best Shining Dancer 3½l in 13-runner handicap at Epsom (1m 4f, good to firm). BEYOND DOUBT ½l 2nd of 12 to Better Offer in handicap at Ascot (1m 4f, good to firm) on penultimate start. FITZWILLIAM about 1l 4th of 18 to Leading Spirit in handicap at Kempton (1m 4f, good). Selection: SPILLO

2.05 TATTERSALLS HOUGHTON SALES CONDITIONS STAKES (2-Y-O: £23,910: 7f) (23 runners) C4

201	(21)	121	ABOU ZOUZ 41 (C,F,G)(W Said) D Loder 9-0	L Dettori	99
202	(12)	51	BANDORE 12 (D,F) (Lady Harrison) D Loder 9-0	W R Swinburn	86
203	(11)	6	GET THE POINT 42 (J Biggi R Rothschild 9-0	W Ryan	71
204	(7)	22104	GRANNY'S PET 88 (G) (Mrs D Arbib) P Cole 9-0	T Quinn	79
205	(17)	4114	GROOM'S GORDON 31 (D,F,G) (Mrs H Fowler) J Dunlop 9-0	Pat Eddery	86
206	(13)	01	HOME ALONE 17 (F) (D Armitage) J Gosden 9-0	R Havlin	80
207	(23)	404424	MAMBATO 13 (Edamine Bloodstock) D Cosgrove 9-0	M Rimmer	57
208	(14)	13	MUKADDAR 25 (S) (Hamdan Al Maktoum) C Benstead 9-0	R Hills	86
209	(2)	045	NOBLE INVESTMENT 13 (J Smith) J Eustace 9-0	R Cochrane	86
210	(8)	4112	PAPUA 35 (D,F) (R Hitchens) I Balding 9-0	J Reid	81
211	(16)	152	SANDSTONE 24 (D,F) (P Winfield) J Dunlop 9-0	M J Kinane	88
212	(9)	65	SHALAAL 13 (Maktoum Al Maktoum) E Dunlop 9-0	S Whitworth	70
213	(22)	2	SWISS LAW 40 (Marquesa de Moratalla) J Fitzgerald 9-0	K Fallon	84
214	(4)	23	WOLF MOUNTAIN 23 (BF) (Lord Carnarvon) R Hannon 9-0	R Hughes	82
215	(19)	4010	ZUBLOI 25 (F) (A Al Sabahi) B Hanbury 9-0	J Stack	67
216	(10)	)	BLANE WATER 24 (G) (CIT Racing) J Fanshawe 8-9	D Harrison	89
217	(6)	124	BOOJUM 56 (F) (Mrs A Bousie) B Hills 8-9	M Hills	87
218	(18)	00565	FRENCH MIST 14 (Mrs A Upsdell) C Brittain 8-9	K Darley	73
219	(5)	10030	LYCALITY 36 (F) (S Manana) C Brittain 8-9	B Doyle	75
220	(15)		MIDNIGHT SHIFT (C Mills) R Guest 8-9	P Bloomfield	–
221	(3)	42135	RAINDANCING 19 (F) (N Hayes) R Hannon 8-9	Dane O'Neill	86
222	(20)	215524	RICH IN LOVE 36 (F) (R Cyzer) C Cyzer 8-9	M Roberts	88
223	(11)		TELLOFF (T Warnes) M James 8-9	G Duffield	–

BETTING: 9-4 Abou Zouz, 6-1 Papua, 7-1 Sandstone, 8-1 Groom's Gordon, 10-1 Bandore, Rich In Love, 12-1 Granny's Pet, 14-1 others.

1995: RIO DUVIDA 9-0 L Dettori (2-1 fav) D Loder 30 ran

FORM FOCUS

ABOU ZOUZ beat Campton Place ½l in 9-runner group II Scottish Equitable Gimcrack Stakes at York (6f, good). BANDORE beat Logic head in 11-runner maiden at Lingfield (7f 140yd, firm). GROOM'S GORDON about 3l 4th of 7 to Equal Rights in group III Futurity Stakes at the Curragh (1m, good to yielding). PAPUA 14l 2nd of 7 to Alpha Plus in listed race at Deauville (7f, good to soft). SANDSTONE beat 2nd of 5 to Bessinge in conditions race at Haydock (1m, good to firm). SWISS LAW 3l 2nd of 8 to Indiscreet in maiden at York (6f, good to firm). BLANE WATER beat Lochangel 4l in 14-runner maiden at Kempton (6f, good) Selection: SANDSTONE

2.35 SHADWELL STUD APPRENTICE SERIES FINAL HANDICAP (£7,295: 1m 2f) (14 runners)

301	(9)	20-0006	TARTE AUX POMMES 18 (F) (A Richards) C Britain 4-9-10	J Goldstead (5)	89
302	(7)	230532	VOLA WA 50 (F) (G Smart) I Balding 3-9-7	Martin Dwyer	95
303	(14)	0-66000	MENAS GOLD 18 (F,G) (T Mountain) S Dow 4-9-7	A Daly	92
304	(6)	222-202	STEP ALOFT 39 (BF) (The Queen) Lord Huntingdon 4-9-5	Aimee Cook	93
305	(1)	400-211	ZIDAC 144 (D,F,S) (B Brastpool) P Mellen 4-9-5	R Havlin	90
306	(13)	60/04-03	OPULENT 13 (S) (Mrs E Hawley) C Dwyer 5-8-3	Jo Hinnam	97
307	(2)	144653	CHEERFUL ASPECT 35 (G) (Maktoum Al Maktoum) E Dunlop 3-9-0	P Roberts	95
308	(3)	441011	WHITE PLAINS 12 (D,F) (Delin Ltd) M Bell 3-9-0	G Faulkner	93
309	(10)	0610	TRICK 17 (D,F) (Lady Halifax) L Cumani 3-8-12	R Fitzrench (3)	91
310	(4)	215133	BUBBLE WINGS 24 (F,G) (F Chao) S Woods 4-8-10	M Henry	97
311	(11)	343401	HARVEY WHITE 24 (D,F,G) (Harvey White Partners) J Pearce 4-8-6	P Doe (3)	89
312	(8)	330132	SUPER HIGH 24 (B,G) (Mrs J Khan) P Howling 4-7-13	M Baird	98
313	(12)	000103	PRINTERS QUILL 12 (D,F) (Mrs B Woodford) D Chappell 4-7-10	Iona Wands	95
314	(5)	620601	DOUBLE ECHO 11 (D,F,G,S) (Mrs J Lee) J Bethell 8-7-10	P Fessey	93

Long handicap: Printers Quill 7-9, Double Echo 7-9.

BETTING: 6-1 Harvey White, 7-1 Cheerful Aspect, White Plains, 8-1 Vola Wa, Zidac, 9-1 Double Echo, 10-1 Printers Quill, 12-1 others.

1995: QUESSTIMATION 8-8-8 S Drowne (14-1) J Pearce 19 ran

FORM FOCUS

TARTE AUX POMMES 12l last of 6 to Forest Buck in conditions race at Doncaster (1m 2f 60yd, good to firm). VOLA WA neck 2nd of 11 to Sharp Consul in apprentices handicap at Windsor (1m 2f, good) with HARVEY WHITE (3lb worse off) 2½l 4th. MENAS GOLD 5l 7th of 17 to Autumn Cover in handicap at Goodwood (1m 1f, good to firm). STEP ALOFT 2½l 2nd of 4 to Traceability in conditions race at Sandown (1m 3f 91yd, good to soft). ZIDAC best effort when beating Mondone 1½l in 13-runner amateurs handicap at Lingfield (1m 2f, good to firm). WHITE PLAINS beat Hawfesh 2l in 12-runner apprentices handicap at Leicester (1m 2f, firm) on penultimate start. TRICK best Polar Champ short-head in 8-runner maiden at Yarmouth (1m 2f, good to firm) on penultimate start. Selection: VOLA WA

3.10 EUROPEAN BREEDERS FUND JERSEY LILY NURSERY HANDICAP (2-Y-O fillies: £19,088: 7f) (14 runners)

401	(9)	142	NIGHTBIRD 20 (F,G) (S Tindall) B Hills 9-7	M Hills	93
402	(3)	182	NAKED POSER 20 (S) (P Winfield) R Hannon 9-5	Pat Eddery	93
403	(10)	2210	CATECHISM 20 (BF,G) (T Tellford) J Gosden 9-3	G Hind	92
404	(7)	34251	BLUES QUEEN 10 (F) (Maygrove Ltd) M Channon 9-3	J Carroll	89
405	(14)	21235	HEN HARRIER 22 (D,BF,F) (T Pilkington) J Dunlop 9-2	K Darley	96
406	(6)	41	TELEMANIA 15 (F) (J Ashenheim) W Haggas 9-1	K Fallon	89
407	(1)	01	ROSE CARNIVAL 24 (D,F) (P Player) D Loder 8-11	L Dettori	93
408	(13)	5316	BRISKA 60 (D,F)(Lord Carnarvon) R Hannon 8-11	Dane O'Neill	85
409	(12)	42156	SONG MIST 20 (F) (Mrs C Hanbury) P Cole 8-10	T Quinn	90
410	(8)	5221	MADAME CHINNERY 14 (D,G) (Chinnery Partners) J Eustace 8-9	R Cochrane	95
411	(4)	0020	GEE BEE DREAM 20 (Grant & Bowman Ltd) A James 8-8	M J Kinane	88
412	(5)	153122	TINKERBELL 10 (V,D,G) (Sun Punters Club) W Muir 8-6	J Reid	88
413	(11)	202	OUR WAY 13 (J Ward Hill) C Britain 8-5	B Doyle	83
414	(2)	02321	LADY GODIVA 27 (G) (Keen Racing) M Polglase 8-2	N Carlisle	95

BETTING: 11-2 Naked Poser, 13-2 Nightbird, 7-1 Catechism, 10-1 Blues Queen, 11-1 Song Mist, Rose Carnival, 12-1 others.

1995: PACIFIC GROVE 8-1 A Whelan (12-1) P Cole 18 ran

FORM FOCUS

NIGHTBIRD beat NAKED POSER (1lb better off) short-head in 22-runner fillies nursery at Doncaster (6f 140yd, good) with BLUES QUEEN (1lb worse off) about 2l 5th, SONG MIST (7lb better off) head 6th, CATECHISM (7lb better off) head 7th and GEE BEE DREAM (7lb better off) 5½l 15th. CATECHISM beat NAPOLEA ½l in 19-runner maiden at Newbury (6f, good) with ROSE CARNIVAL (5lb better off) 3½l 7th and GEE BEE DREAM (9lb better off) 2½l 10th. HEN HARRIER 2½l and head 3rd of 10 to Mister Park in nursery here (7f, good to firm). ROSE CARNIVAL beat River Of Fortune 2l in 12-runner auction maiden at Thirsk (7f, good to firm). BRISKA beat MADAME CHINNERY (2lb worse off) 1¾l in 8-runner auction maiden at Warwick (7f, firm) on penultimate start. MADAME CHINNERY beat Attribute 2l in 8-runner nursery at Yarmouth (7f, good). LADY GODIVA beat Double Espresso by ½l in 24-runner nursery at York (1m, good). Selection: NIGHTBIRD

3.45 SHADWELL STUD CHEVELEY PARK STAKES (Group I: 2-Y-O fillies: £69,309: 6f) (9 runners) C4

501	(2)	12021	ARETHUSA 24 (D,F,G) (Lord Carnarvon) R Hannon 8-11	Dane O'Neill	87
502	(8)	412	CARATI 19 (D,F) (Mrs J Rook) R Boss 8-11	G Duffield	70
503	(4)	11	DAZZLE 84 (CD,F,G) (Cheveley Park Stud) M Stoute 8-11	K Fallon	99
504	(6)	112	MOONLIGHT PARADISE 66 (CD,G) (Godolphin) S bin Suroor 8-11	L Dettori	90
505	(9)	1214	OCEAN RIDGE 51 (D,F,G) (R Sangster) P Chapple-Hyam 8-11	J Reid	92
506	(3)	131	PAS DE REPONSE 21 (D,G) (Wertheimer et Frere) Mrs C Head (Fr) 8-11	F Head	80
507	(7)	124341	QUEEN SCEPTRE 11 (D,F) (Sceptre Racing) B Hills 8-11	Pat Eddery	90
508	(1)	35	QUEEN'S PAGEANT 26 (Mr; R Heathcote) J Spearing 8-11	J Weaver	69
509	(5)	02143	SNAP CRACKLE POP 12 (F) (Shon / Wife / Hons) R J Houghton 8 11	A McGlone	72

BETTING: 4-5 Dazzle, 5-1 Pas De Reponse, 6-1 Ocean Ridge, Moonlight Paradise, 10-1 Arethusa, Queen Sceptre, 12-1 others

1995: BLUE DUSTER 8-11 M J Kinane (4-5 fav) D Loder 5 ran

FORM FOCUS

ARETHUSA beat Macarani Monk neck in 7-runner listed race at Kempton (6f, good). DAZZLE completed double, beat OCEAN RIDGE 5l in 9-runner group II Hillsdown Cherry Hinton Stakes here (6f, good). MOONLIGHT PARADISE short-head 2nd of 8 to Seebe in group III Princess Margaret Stakes at Ascot (6f, good to firm) with QUEEN SCEPTRE (3lb worse off) 5½l 4th, OCEAN RIDGE about 2l 4th of 9 to Manitoumi in group I Heinz 57 Phoenix Stakes at Leopardstown (6f, good to yielding). PAS DE REPONSE beat Heaven's Command 1½l in 5-runner group III Prix d'Arenberg at Evry (5l 110yd, good) QUEEN SCEPTRE beat Head Over Heels 2l in 6-runner listed race at Ayr (6f, good to firm) Selection: DAZZLE (nap)

4.20 EUROPEAN BREEDERS FUND EQUITY FINANCIAL COLLECTIONS MAIDEN STAKES (2-Y-O colts and geldings: £5,527: 1m) (12 runners)

601	(10)		ASAS (Hamdan Al Maktoum) S bin Suroor 8-11	R Hills	–
602	(8)		CATCHABLE (Lord Howard de Walden) H Cecil 8-11	Pat Eddery	–
603	(5)	2	CHIVALRIC 13 (Sheikh Mohammed) D Loder 8-11	W R Swinburn	99
604	(6)	3	DARK GREEN 87 (BF) (Fahd Salman) P Cole 8-11	T Quinn	95
605	(2)		DESERT HORIZON (K Abdulla) J Gosden 8-11	L Dettori	–
606	(9)	0	DOUBLE-E-I-B-A 13 (Camelot Racing) C Allen 8-11	Martin Dwyer (5)	–
607	(11)		HARIK (Hamdan Al Maktoum) B Hanbury 8-11	M Rimmer	–
608	(4)	6	INCLUDE ME OUT 12 (W Gredley) J Fanshawe 8-11	N Day	–
609	(1)	2	JAUNTY JACK 24 (M Marchetti) L Cumani 8-11	O Urbina	–
610	(3)		MICHAEL VENTURE (F Chao) S Woods 8-11	W Ryan	–
611	(12)		PERCY ISLE (Sheikh Mohammed) M Stoute 8-11	M J Kinane	–
612	(7)		ROYAL CROWN (R Sangster) P Chapple-Hyam 8-11	J Reid	–

BETTING: 3-1 Catchable, 4-1 Chivalric, 9-2 Desert Horizon, 6-1 Percy Isle, 7-1 Dark Green, 15-2 Acas, 8-1 Royal Crown, 10-1 others.

1995: HELICON 8-11 M J Kinane (7-1) H Cecil 20 ran

FORM FOCUS

ASAS (rated Feb 1). First foal by Nashwan; dam useful (7) juvenile winner and smart 1m 2f winner at three years, including in group II company in Italy. CATCHABLE (Feb 2). Half-brother by Pursuit Of Love to middle-distance winners Isle Of Pines and Liconne, dam 1m 2f winner. CHIVALRIC 114l 2nd of 17 to Harry Wotton in maiden at Yarmouth (7f, good to firm) DARK GREEN 24l 3rd of 6 to Gretel in maiden at Sandown (7f, good to soft). DESERT HORIZON (Feb 16) Brother by Danehill to Sandhill, 7f winner at three years and winner abroad and half-brother to a winner abroad, dam 1m 2f winner in France. JAUNTY JACK 11 2nd of 7 to Milkandare in conditions race at San Siro (6f, good) ROYAL CROWN (Apr 14) Brother by Sadler's Wells to Royal Court, very useful 1m 4f winner and half-brother to Derby winner Oh Deveous and smart sprinter in Ireland Archway, dam, from very good family, unraced Selection: DARK GREEN

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS	Wins	Rans	%	JOCKEYS	Winners	Rides	%
Mrs C Head	4	7	57.1	Pat Eddery	120	525	22.9
H Cecil	68	282	24.1	M J Kinane	18	121	14.9
D Loder	21	107	19.6	W R Swinburn	54	371	14.6
S bin Suroor	5	31	16.1	L Dettori	75	529	14.2
J Gosden	55	373	14.7	Dane O'Neill	9	64	14.1

Fallon to winter in California

KIEREN FALLON, who will be attempting to land his first group one prize on Dazzle in the Shadwell Stud Cheveley Park Stakes at Newmarket this afternoon, plans to break new ground this winter by race riding in the United States. Fallon will be riding at Santa Anita, Los Angeles, for Bobby Frankel, who trains for Khalid Abdulla. He will leave Britain as soon as the turf season closes in November. Fallon has spent the last two winters riding work for Frankel at Hollywood Park. "I will be concentrating on work riding more than races," he said.

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9/2 Smart Play
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SEDGEFIELD

THUNDERER

2.20 RUSHEN RAIDER (nap). 2.50 Heresthedeal. 3.25 Cross Cannon. 3.55 Val De Rama. 4.30 Tough Test. 5.00 Canton Venture.

GOING: GOOD TO FIRM — SIS

2.20 STANLEY RACING GOLDEN NUMBERS SERIES NOVICES HURDLE (£2,233: 2m 5f 110yd) (6 runners)

1	BP-1		DANNY GALE 17 (G) G McCourt 5-11-5	G Bradley	85
2	0P-0		KANONA 25 Mrs A Swinburn 5-10-12	J Supple	–
3	P4-2		PAPA'S BOY 115 J Johnson 5-10-12	S Taylor (5)	78
4	56-0		RULE OUT THE REST 25 Mrs S Horner-Harker 5-10-12	A Thomson	82
5	S		RUSHEN RAIDER 6 (BF) K Hogg 4-10-11	M Foster	–
6	0/4R		TIGH-NA-MARA 25 J Jefferson 8-10-7	M Dwyer	80

5-4 Rushen Raider, 2-1 Danny Gale, 9-2 Tigh-Na-Mara, 8-1 Papa's Boy, 12-1 Rule Out The Rest, 25-1 Kanona

2.50 SATLEY PUNCH BOWL CLAIMING HURDLE (£2,443: 2m 1f) (8)

1	033-		WONIOS 129 (F) G Moore 5-11-12	J Callaghan	97
2	-422		HERESTHEDEAL 17 (V,F,G) G McCourt 7-11-0	R Hobson (7)	89
3	505-		ELITE-ESS 127 (F,G) R Weaver 11-10-11	C R Weaver (7)	–
4	0		SHUTTLECOCK 11 Mrs M Macauley 5-10-11	A Maguire	81
5	00-2		STAGS FELL 10 (CD,F,G) T Cuthbert 11-10-8	Carol Cuthbert	94
6	1-26		CLOVER GIRL 17 (V,D,G) B Bloom 5-10-6	G Cahill (5)	90
7	03/3		RED MARCH HARE 9F G Moffatt 5-10-6	D J Moffatt	85
8	1-P5		CARDIO LAD 33 (CD,F,S) F Storey 9-10-5	B Storey	98

9-4 Heresthedeal, 11-4 Wonios, 5-1 Red March Hare, 7-1 Stags Fell, 8-1 Shuttlecock, 9-1 Clover Girl, 12-1 others.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: P Bowen, 5 winners from 11 runners, 45.5%; Mrs M Reveley, 65 from 226, 28.8%; G Moore, 20 from 119, 16.8%; H Alexander, 4 from 24, 16.7%; J Johnson, 23 from 152, 15.1%

JOCKEYS: P Niven, 53 winners from 167 rides, 31.7%; M Dwyer, 22 from 107, 20.6%; A Maguire, 17 from 83, 20.5%; J Callaghan, 16 from 99, 16.2%; R McGrath, 3 from 19, 15.8%; N Williamson, 5 from 32, 15.6%.

3.25 LAZENBY AND WILSON HANDICAP CHASE (£3,418: 2m 5f) (6)

1	2-F0		CROSS CANNON 109 (CD,F,S) J Wade 10-12-0	T Reed	92
2	21-1		UNOR 116 (F,S) P Monteith 10-11-7	A Dobbin	94
3	121P		MAGIC BLOOM 17 (CD,BF,F,S) J Jefferson 10-11-0	R Guest	98
4	2031		THE BLUE BOY 10 (B,D,F,G,S) P Bowen 8-11-0	A P McCoy	99
5	4U-5		CHARMING GALE 116 (V,S) Mrs S Bradburne 9-10-4	A Maguire	98
6	-014		TURPIN'S GREEN 20 (CD,F,S) J King 13-10-0	J Culloty	86

7-4 Unor, 5-2 Magic Bloom, 4-1 The Blue Boy, 5-1 Cross Cannon, 12-1 Charming Gale, 16-1 Turpin's Green.

3.55 SPITFIRE NOVICES CHASE (£2,877: 2m 5f) (6)

1	43-1		NOTABLE EXCEPTION 80 (F,G,S) Mrs M Reveley 7-11-5	P Niven	99
2	2P-1		VAL DE RAMA 25 (CD,F,G) Davys Smith 7-11-5	R Guest	90
3	P0-3		CARDINAL SINNER 25 J Ware 7-10-12	K Jones	85
4	2F-6		GOLDEN SAVANNAH 115 (G,S) M Sowerby 6-10-12	D Parker (3)	78
5	01/F		RAPID FIRE 24 (G) J Jefferson 6-10-12	M Dwyer	85
6	B0-P		ISLANDREAGH 32 G Richards 5-10-5	A Dobbin	–

6-4 Notable Exception, 11-4 Rapid Fire, 4-1 Val De Rama, 5-1 Islandreagh, 14-1 Cardinal Sinner, 16-1 Golden Savannah.

4.30 KIER NORTH EAST HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,793: 2m 5f 110yd) (6)

1	-213		RED VALERIAN 17 (V,CD,F) G Moore 5-12

ATHLETICS

Suspension threat casts a cloud over Games

BY DAVID POWELL, ATHLETICS CORRESPONDENT

A THREAT by Primo Nebiolo, the president of the International Amateur Athletic Federation (IAAF), to have athletes suspended if they compete in the hitherto unlicensed 1998 Commonwealth Games has raised the stakes in the clash of dates between the Games and the World Cup. The Commonwealth Games athletics programme in Kuala Lumpur is scheduled to begin on the last day of the World Cup in Johannesburg.

Nebiolo, miffed at poor support for the IAAF half-marathon world championships in Palma, Majorca, on Sunday, because they coincided with the Berlin marathon and Luxembourg half-marathon, responded by saying that, from now on, international athletics events would be compelled to be separated from IAAF ones by a period of three days at least.

"That goes for all events and all championships," Nebiolo said. "This is the last time there will be competitions on the same day as IAAF world championships."

Nebiolo's remarks intensify the need for the IAAF and the Commonwealth Games Federation to reach an agreement, particularly as he added: "We shall disqualify all athletes who take part in unlicensed events." The Commonwealth Games does not yet have the mandatory IAAF permit.

"All competitions must have permits and we will not give a permit to any event in competition with ours," Nebiolo said. "We shall put a window around them, probably three or four days either side. We can do what we want. We are the governing body."

The IAAF is to blame for the clash, having set the World Cup date long after the Commonwealth Games' was set. This did not stop Nebiolo from saying: "We have informed the Commonwealth Games organisers that we shall not give them a permit. They must amend their dates."

Although only the women's marathon is pencilled in for the opening day of the Commonwealth Games, the track programme is due to start 24 hours later. However, given that the venues are 5,300 miles apart and athletes need recovery time from travelling before competing, it is clear that, even with a three-day window, tired performers will be going to the line in Kuala Lumpur.

The World Cup has been fixed for September 11 to 13, the Commonwealth Games athletics from September 13 to 20. In the hope of appeasing the IAAF, the Commonwealth Games Federation is prepared to sacrifice its athletics rest day on September 17 and, perhaps, to stage the closing events on September 21.

The 1998 World Cup will be the first to include prize-money and, without giving ground, the Commonwealth Games might find that the poor standard of competition in Victoria in 1994 might be even weaker come 1998. There would be those athletes who, in choosing between cash or county, would prefer the dollar.

"We would want to adjust the programme in a way that gives the athletes recovery time, which the IAAF would regard as reasonable," David Dixon, the honorary secretary of the Commonwealth Games Federation, said. "The World Cup is over three days and the movement of athletes, I hope, would be phased. There is no reason why athletes involved on day one could not leave after that. We have flexibility in our programme."

Giorgio Reineri, the IAAF spokesman, said that "the problem will be solved". He added that the president of the Malaysian athletics federation was seeking talks with Nebiolo to resolve the difficulty.

VICKY MATTHERS



Lowes, centre, the Great Britain captain for the game against a President's XIII tomorrow, training yesterday

Britain await Australia verdict

BY CHRISTOPHER IRVINE

IN THE event of a successful appeal this week by the Super League against a four-year ban in Australia, an international rugby league match against Australia would almost certainly be added to the end of Great Britain's present Pacific tour.

A one-off contest next month, probably in Brisbane, depends first on the three appeal judges at the Sydney Federal Court giving their decision by Friday: any later and it would be difficult to arrange. Second, the Super League would have to overturn the overwhelming ruling against it last February.

Britain's original plan to tour Australia was scuppered by the verdict in favour of the Australian Rugby League (ARL), which is banking on another convincing legal defeat of the Super League. If not, there are likely to be two Australia teams, the ARL version and the Super League one, which Britain would meet a week after the third international in New Zealand, in Christchurch, on November 1.

The touring party arrived yesterday on a first visit to Fiji, nursing injuries to Alan Hunte, who pinched a sciatic nerve in the defeat of Papua New Guinea last Saturday, and Rowland Phillips, who had an infected cyst removed from his face. They are the main doubts for the international match in Nadi on Saturday.



Tollett: first start

Jon Roper misses the game tomorrow, against a Fijian President's XIII, because of knee ligament problems. Bernard Dwyer has recovered from badly blistered feet to reach the substitutes' bench and the Hastings-born, Australian-bred Tulsen Tollett makes his first start at half back, alongside Karle Hammond, who switches from loose forward.

James Lowes takes on the captain's responsibility at hooker and three survivors from the narrow win against Papua — Joey Hayes, Chris Joynt and Terry O'Connor — are in the starting line-up. Other than heat and humidity, the opposition at Lautoka should not cause too many problems.

Oldham will follow Halifax and Chorley in the past month, in announcing a move to a football ground today, with a sharing arrangement at Oldham Athletic, until a new stadium is built in the town. Boundary Park successfully staged several Super League games last season.

More controversial is a possible move by Leeds from Headingley to Elland Road. An action group has been formed to oppose the plan by Caspian, the sport and media group that took control of Leeds United and is seeking to acquire the rugby league club.

The fact that they will be seen as no more than pre-season money-making matches has not prevented Wigan and St Helens from agreeing two Christmas and new year challenge fixtures. The decision is unlikely to impress Jason Robinson, Gary Connolly, Henry Paul and Va'aiga Tuigamala, who are not due to rejoin Wigan from rugby union until early January.

GREAT BRITAIN (v FiJ President's XIII, tomorrow): S Prescott (St Helens); J Hayes (St Helens), B-J Mather (Perm), K Senior (Smethwick), J Critchley (Keighley), K Hammond (St Helens), T Tollett (London), T O'Connor (Wigan), J Lowes (Bradford, captain), N Harmon (Leeds), D Bradbury (Oldham), M Cassidy (Wigan), C Joynt (St Helens). Substitutes: A Sullivan (St Helens), B Dwyer (Bradford), A Morley (Leeds), S Molloy (Featherstone)

SPORT IN BRIEF

Henman achieves highest ranking

TIM HENMAN, the British No 1, has moved up by one place to No 32 in the world tennis rankings, the highest placing of his career. Henman will play in six successive tournaments in Europe before the end of the year in an effort to improve his points tally on the Association of Tennis Professionals computer and move even higher up the rankings.

His campaign begins today in the first round of the Lyons grand prix, which has more than £475,000 in prize-money. Henman faces Guy Forget, of France. Greg Rusedski, the British No 2, has slipped to 84 in the rankings. Rusedski is playing in the Heineken Open in Singapore this week, but has a tough first-round draw against Todd Woodbridge, of Australia, the No 5 seed.

☐ Austria's Davis Cup team will meet officials of the International Tennis Federation next week to explain why they forfeited their match against Brazil in São Paulo last month. Thomas Muster walked off court during his match, complaining about the behaviour of Brazilian spectators.

Lancashire name coach

CRICKET: Lancashire have appointed Dav Whatmore as their new head coach on a one-year contract. Whatmore, who played in seven Tests for Australia, was coach to Sri Lanka when they won the World Cup in March. Bob Bennett, the Lancashire chairman, said: "Dav Whatmore is a proven winner and I am delighted he is coming to Old Trafford. He has experience at international level both as a player and coach." Whatmore, in Kenya with Sir Lanka, said: "I know that Lancashire are the biggest club in England. I relish the challenge of working alongside some very talented players at Old Trafford."

BCF still seeks president

CYCLING: The British Cycling Federation (BCF), which has been without a president since Tony Doyle, the former world pursuit champion, resigned six months ago, has received no nominations for the post in the run-up to its national council meeting in Rotherham on November 2. Jim Hendry, the chief executive, said yesterday that the final outcome rests with delegates at the meeting. The East Anglian division of the BCF has tabled a motion which seeks to define the president as a figurehead. Colin Clews, the federation technical director, believes that uncertainty over the president's status has deterred candidates.

Treble for Taylor

HOCKEY: Robbie Taylor, of Lisnagarvey, scored three times in Ireland's 7-0 victory over Bangladesh yesterday on the second day of the preliminary round of the men's World Cup at Cagliari, Sardinia. The victory takes Ireland to the top of the group table on goal difference from Poland. Taylor scored two goals in the first half and also had a hand in Ireland's two other scores during that period. Wales recovered from a 1-0 defeat by Switzerland in their opening match to beat Egypt 3-2.

Tanner's call for funds

ROWING: David Tanner, the Great Britain manager, yesterday emphasised the urgent need for funding if the team is to build on the successes of the Olympic Games in Atlanta. "We seem to be living on promises," Tanner said. "Some £30 million has been put aside by the National Lottery for sport but the money is not likely to be available until next April, by which time the best coaches will have been snapped up by other countries." Tanner wants to recruit five paid coaches for the Britain senior team.

30p THE TIMES

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Unappreciated?
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SHEEHAN on BRIDGE

BY ROBERT SHEEHAN, BRIDGE CORRESPONDENT

John Armstrong, one of Great Britain's leading international players, was East on this hand from the Grand Masters Pairs.

Dealer East East-West game Match-pointed pairs

	♠9632 ♥K7 ♦42 ♣AQJ104	
♠Q84 ♥842 ♦KJ1063 ♣75	N W E S	♠AK1075 ♥A6 ♦Q75 ♣K82
	♠J ♥QJ10953 ♦A98 ♣963	

Contract: Three Hearts by South **Lead: Four of spades**

East opened One Spade. South made a weak jump overcall of Three Hearts and this was passed back to East. Armstrong passed, though I dare say some would re-open with a double. That might have pushed East-West overboard — the defence should prevail against Four Spades. Say that South leads the queen of hearts, which declarer wins (if he ducks, a diamond switch — ducked by South — would finish his chances). Now, if declarer tries to set up diamonds, North can get a ruff, whereas, if he goes for a club ruff in dummy, the defence can continue hearts at every opportunity and declarer will lose trump control.

Against Three Hearts, West led a low spade to East's king and declarer's jack. Armstrong now found the only switch to defeat the contract — the six of hearts. Suppose that he had continued instead with a top spade. Declarer ruffs and ducks a diamond. East has to play ace and another heart to prevent declarer from ruffing a diamond in the dummy, and now declarer simply concedes a club. Any other continuation leads to a similar position. However, on the actual defence, declarer had no chance. Had he ducked a diamond, Armstrong would have won, cashed the ace of hearts and continued with a diamond. Perhaps the best hope to make the contract is for the declarer to take the club finesse at trick three, but East wins and returns a club. That leads to two down — the defence make one spade, one heart, two diamonds, a club and a club ruff.

The trials for the England team to play in the Macallan Camrose Trophy (the home international competition) ended on Sunday at the Young Chelsea Bridge Club. With one match to go, any of four teams could win. King beat Armstrong heavily in the last match to repeat his win of 1995.

RESULTS: 1, P King (N Rosen, G and S Tredinnick) 236 VPs; 2, S Lodge (P Crouch, G Liggins, A Dyson) 235; 3, J Holland (M Brunner, J Hassott, B Hirst) 229

☐ Robert Sheehan writes on bridge Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

KEENE on CHESS

BY RAYMOND KEENE
CHESS CORRESPONDENT

Russian gold

The team from Russia, led by Garry Kasparov, is now virtually certain of the gold medals in the chess Olympiad in Erevan, Armenia.

Russia lead with 33½ points out of 48 ahead of Ukraine, on 30½, and the United States, on 30. England have 29 points, having drawn with China. Outstanding in England side is grandmaster Matthew Sadler, who has scored ten points out of 12, a phenomenal score.

In the women's Olympiad, Georgia lead with 26½ points ahead of Russia and China on 24 and England and Ukraine on 23½. In the twelfth round, England crushed Slovakia 2½-½.

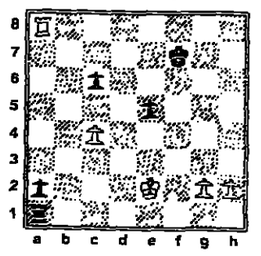
White: I Smirin (Israel)
Black: G Kasparov (Russia)
Erevan Olympiad
Armenia, September 1996

Sicilian Defence

1	e4	c5
2	Nf3	d6
3	d4	cxd4
4	Nxd4	Nf6
5	Nc3	a6
6	Be3	Ng4
7	Bg5	h6
8	Bh4	g5
9	Bg3	Bg7
10	Be2	h5
11	Bxg4	Bxg4
12	f3	Bd7
13	Bf2	Nc6
14	Nd5	Rb8
15	0-0	e6
16	Nxc6	bxc6
17	Ne3	d5
18	Rb1	0-0
19	c4	d4
20	Nc2	e5
21	Ne1	f5
22	Nd3	g4
23	Nc5	gxf3
24	Qxf3	fxe4
25	Qxh5	Qe8
26	Qg5	Rf5
27	Qd2	e3
28	Bxe3	Rb1+
29	Rd1	dxe3
30	Qxd7	Qxd7
31	Nxd7	Rxb2
32	Nf6+	Bxf6
33	Rxf6	Rxa2
34	Rf1	a5
35	Re1	e2
36	Kf2	a4
37	Rb1	a3
38	Rb8+	Kf7
39	Ra8	Ra1
40	fxe2	a2

White resigns

Diagram of final position



The final position is a win for Black on account of the following diabolical trick: 41, Kf2 e4; 42, h4 e3+; 43, Ke2 Rg1; 44, Rxa2 Rxg2+, which skewers White's rook.

Times book

The Times Winning Moves 2 contains 240 chess puzzles from international grandmaster Raymond Keene's daily column in *The Times*, and is available now from bookshops or from B. T. Batsford Ltd (tel: 01376 321276) at £6.99 plus postage and packing.

☐ Raymond Keene writes on chess Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

WORD-WATCHING

By Philip Howard

ONERABLE
a. Magnificent
b. Finite
c. Tiresome

UTRAQUIST
a. A wine-bibber
b. Every-which-whither
c. Cow's fifth belly

DECOLLATION
a. A cold snack
b. A necklace pendant
c. Decapitation

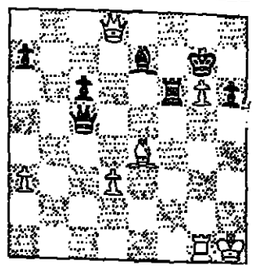
UXORILOCAL
a. Looking for a wife
b. Living with the wife
c. Centripetal

Answers on page 50

WINNING MOVE

By Raymond Keene

White to play. This position is from the game Piotrowski — Tannenberg, Germany, 1926. Nimzowitsch, the great German teacher, wrote of the passed pawn's lust to expand. How did White now satisfy this craving with his pawn on g6?



Solution on page 50

مكذا من الاصل

BASKETBALL

Brown gets back in swim for Towers

By Nicholas Harling

THE stubborn determination of Karl Brown, the England international, not to get left behind as London Towers embarked on their demanding European Cup programme has led to him the making an astonishing comeback from injury.

It was with his right foot in a plaster cast that the Borwn, the 6ft 1in playmaker, painstakingly practised his shots after a swimming pool escapade in Italy during the summer left him with a broken ankle.

Almost two months ahead of schedule, Brown, 29, returned for the Towers, the Budweiser League champions, on Sunday, scoring 20 points, including two three-pointers, in their 122-80 victory over Hemel and Watford Royals. A similar contribution would not go amiss at Wembley tonight when the Towers play their first home fixture in group H of the European competition, against PTT Ankara.

For three or four hours a day, Brown trained in the Spectrum Centre, Guildford, on a court that he had come to know well during his days with Guildford Kings. "I was down there in the gym, shooting on one leg with the physio doing the rebounding for me," he said. "If I wasn't doing that, I was working out and exercising on the weight machines. My fitness is still a little rusty and the ankle is still not 100 per cent, but it's nice to have got this first game under my belt."

Brown completed the final stages of his recuperation last week while the Towers were away beating Vita Tbilisi to make up for an earlier defeat in Verona.

Kevin Cadle, the Towers coach, was the most impressed observer of Brown's return. "It was a perfect type of game for him as it didn't go to the wire," he said. "Karl's been working hard. It's not as if he's been sitting around feeling sorry for himself."

However, Cadle is aware that Ankara will be a tougher proposition at Wembley than Hemel, the Budweiser's League bottom team.

AMERICAN FOOTBALL: QUARTERBACK REINFORCES PACKERS' SUPER BOWL CREDENTIALS

Favre passes test of character in style

By Oliver Holt



Adrian Murrell, the Jets running back, scores a touchdown during their 24-16 defeat by Washington Redskins. Photograph: Ted Mathias

THEY stopped talking about the National Football League (NFL) pretenders yesterday and started up on a new chorus of praise for the thoroughbreds. Green Bay Packers got their bad game out of their system against Minnesota Vikings nine days ago, but, on Sunday, the Packers, the team that is emerging as the class of this season's field, returned to form with a vengeance.

The Vikings, Kansas City Chiefs and Carolina Panthers, the three teams who took unbeaten records into the fifth weekend of the NFL season, all lost. Indianapolis Colts, the only remaining side with an unblemished record, did not play and, in their absence, the Packers grabbed the chance to re-establish their Super Bowl credentials.

Part of their appeal, part of the reason that the country seems to have been so enthused by their success, is that they are a team full of characters, from Reggie White, a preacher who used to be a member of Philadelphia Eagles' "body bag" defence, to Brett Favre, the brilliant quarterback who has been dogged by an addiction to painkillers.

Favre's problems, which have been well documented since he admitted, four months ago, that he was hooked on Vicodin and was subsquently forced to enter a rehabilitation clinic, seem to have subsided, but, despite his throwing, he is still coming under intense scrutiny.

He threw four touchdown passes in Seattle on Sunday as he led the Packers to a 31-10 rout of the Seahawks and leads the league with 16 touchdown passes this season. If he continues at his present rate, he will exceed the record quarterback rating — the mark of a player's excellence — set by Steve Young, of San Francisco 49ers.

Favre, though, has still not been accorded the respect that he feels he deserves and the controversy about his painkiller addiction has only exacerbated the resentment welling up within him. He said that he would never have admitted his addiction if he had known that the NFL was going to force him into a programme that prevented him from touching alcohol for two years, even though he insists that he has never been an alcoholic.

"When I threw 24 interceptions in 1993," he said, "people said they knew the Packers had made a mistake getting me. Then I came back better the next year and they said I had good talent around me and that was why I was doing well. Now they are saying no wonder I played well last year because I was taking pills. There has never been a time when people said: 'You know, he's just pretty damn good.'

"I don't take the Vicodin any more. I take something called Motrin, which is an anti-inflammatory. While you're taking 'em, you're thinking: 'I'm hurting, this stuff's not working.' Then you get off it and you think: 'I guess it was working because I'm really hurting now.' "

Favre, who suffers from chronic lower back pain and nagging injuries to his left knee and ankle, has also been under extra strain because of incidents involving his siblings. His younger sister, Brandi, a former Miss Teen Mississippi, was charged with being an accessory to a drive-by shooting; his older brother, Scott, was arrested over a drink-driving charge. None of it, however, seems to have adversely affected Favre.

As the Packers were hoisting their record up to four wins out of five, the early pacesetters were getting reined in. The Vikings looked set to complete another fourth-quarter comeback against New York Giants before Warren Moon, their quarterback, threw an interception that ruined their chances. "I tell you," Moon said somewhat pessimistically after the 15-10 loss, "this is reality."

The Chiefs also came close to elevating themselves to a 5-0 record in San Diego, but were undone by the heroics of Junior Seau, the Chargers linebacker, who inspired the critical late block of a field goal attempt that gave the Chargers their 22-19 victory. In Jacksonville, the Jaguars won the battle of last year's two expansion teams to rob the Panthers of their unbeaten record with a 24-14 defeat.

New Orleans Saints continued in vain to search for a first victory, losing 17-10 to Baltimore Ravens, while the league's highest-profile hard-luck story, New York Jets' winless start, took a new twist when they had a touchdown disallowed during their 24-16 defeat at the hands of Washington Redskins.

NFL DETAILS

RESULTS: Baltimore 17 New Orleans 10; Chicago 19 Oakland 17; Denver 14 Cincinnati 10; Jacksonville 24 Carolina 14; New York Giants 15 Minnesota 10; Pittsburgh 30 Houston 16; Detroit 27 Tampa Bay 0; Arizona 31 St Louis 28; San Diego 22 Kansas City 19; Green Bay 31 Seattle 10; San Francisco 39 Atlanta 17; Washington 31 New York Jets 16.

FIXTURES: Sunday: Baltimore v New England; Chicago v Green Bay, Detroit v Atlanta; Miami v Seattle; Minnesota v Carolina; New York Jets v Oakland; Buffalo v Indianapolis; Denver v San Diego; New Orleans v Jacksonville; St Louis v San Francisco; Cincinnati v Houston Monday; Kansas City v Pittsburgh.

American Conference

East division

	W	L	PF	PA
Indianapolis	4	0	76	50
Miami	3	1	104	57
Buffalo	3	1	56	61
New England	2	2	79	66
NY Jets	0	5	62	132

Central division

Pittsburgh	3	1	94	63
Baltimore	2	2	86	84
Houston	2	2	98	90
Jacksonville	2	3	103	102
Cincinnati	1	3	70	82

West division

Denver	4	1	116	76
Kansas City	4	1	110	75
San Diego	4	1	128	116
Oakland	1	4	85	100
Seattle	1	4	71	138

National Conference

East division

	W	L	PF	PA
Washington	4	1	103	56
Philadelphia	3	1	87	88
Arizona	2	3	92	131
NY Giants	2	3	58	97
Dallas	1	3	64	57

Central division

Green Bay	4	1	167	66
Minnesota	4	1	100	80
Detroit	3	2	113	83
Chicago	2	3	74	88
Tampa Bay	0	5	45	126

West division

San Francisco	3	1	107	51
Carolina	3	1	88	57
St Louis	1	3	84	98
Atlanta	0	4	58	124
New Orleans	0	5	70	124

ICE HOCKEY

Undefeated Eagles subdue the Storm

By Norman de Mesquita

AYR Scottish Eagles, the only unbeaten Superleague team, maintained their record with a 4-2 away win over Manchester Storm in the first leg of their Benson and Hedges Cup quarter-final.

The Storm were handicapped once again by the absence of two defencemen — Stephen Cooper, who has had a hernia operation, and Dale Jago, who has a knee ligament injury. Both will be out for a month or more. They had John Finnie, their goaltender, to thank for restricting Ayr to four goals. He saved 48 of the 52 shots that came his way.

Sam Groleau and Vince Boe gave the Eagles an early two-goal lead and, although Brad Rubachuk pulled one back for the Storm, Ayr were never really hard pressed.

Results were much as expected in the other three quarter-finals, but they were not achieved in quite the way one might have anticipated.

Cardiff Devils beat Nottingham Panthers 1-0 in the lowest scoring game in British ice hockey since 1953. Steve Moria scored the decisive goal midway through the second period.

Previous form suggested that Basingstoke Bison would beat Bracknell Bees, their near neighbours, with ease, but their 5-3 win was far from straightfoward. The Bees showed far more desire and led three times before a defensive error by Matt Coté allowed Chris Maybury to put the Bison 4-3 ahead with 12 minutes to go. They added a late power-play goal.

Sheffield Steelers, who lost a league game to Newcastle Cobras last weekend, gained ample consolation with a 6-3 success. The scores were level at 3-3 early in the final period when Jamie Leach took over. He scored twice in eight minutes to put the Steelers ahead and Nicky Chinn completed the scoring in the final two minutes.

Leach, who was with Pittsburgh Penguins when they won the Stanley Cup in 1992, has now scored 15 goals and had seven assists in ten league and cup games.

BASEBALL: FIRST SERIES REPEAT FOR 18 YEARS LOOKS DISTINCT POSSIBILITY

Braves feared by all in play-offs

By Keith Blackmore

THE first full baseball season since 1993 enters its decisive phase today when the divisional play-offs begin. Eight teams are left to scrap for places in the World Series, the sport's annual showpiece, but the chances are that the same two teams as last season will be in at the death.

Atlanta Braves beat Cleveland Indians in six games last October and both are favoured to repeat their success as champions, respectively, of the National and American Leagues this year. If they do, they will become the first pair of teams to repeat since 1978, when New York Yankees beat Los Angeles Dodgers in the Series for the second year running.

As luck would have it, the Yankees and the Dodgers are in the shake-up this time too. The Yankees, the Manchester United of the sport, won their American League division for the first time since 1981 and the Dodgers overcame the mid-season retirement of Tommy Lasorda, their fabled manager. The Dodgers, though, are limping into the post-season. On Friday they held a two-game lead in the National League West, with three games to play — all at home but all against San Diego Padres, their nearest rivals.

They lost the lot, the last two in extra innings. The hero for the Padres was Chris Gwynn, previously known only for being the brother of Tony. San Diego's hitting star, who won the individual batting championship on the same night. Chris Gwynn's two-run double in the eleventh inning gave his team the game and the West championship, steering them clear of Atlanta, the team that everyone wanted to avoid in the play-offs.

"Today I'm Chris Gwynn's brother," Tony said as his team-mates celebrated. "It means more to me that Chris got the base hit than me winning the batting title." His delight was Mike Piazza's sorrow. The big Dodgers catcher lost the batting title on a technicality as his team lost the divisional championship.

For Texas Rangers, the Yankees' opponents, the play-offs represent unknown territory. The team, which began as Washington Senators in 1961, and moved to Arlington, Texas, in 1972, had never won so much as a divisional play-off.

The other American League play-off pits Cleveland, who were the most successful team in baseball this year, against Baltimore Orioles, for whom seven players hit 20 or more home runs during the season. Like the Dodgers, the Orioles qualified for the play-offs thanks to a wild-card given to the best runners-up.

The Padres, meanwhile, must play St Louis Cardinals, who have flourished under the management of Tony La Russa, who guided Oakland Athletics to three consecutive Series in the Eighties. In his first season, La Russa has led his new team to the National League Central crown and their first play-off for almost a decade.

DETAILS

DIVISIONAL PLAY-OFFS (best of five): American League: Baltimore Orioles v Cleveland Indians; New York Yankees v Texas Rangers. National League: Los Angeles Dodgers v Atlanta Braves; St Louis Cardinals v San Diego Padres.

Two games played at first venue, then final three at second venue. Series begin today in Baltimore, New York and St Louis, and in Los Angeles tomorrow.

FINAL TABLES

AMERICAN LEAGUE: Boston 6 New York 5, Toronto 4 Baltimore 1; Milwaukee 7 Detroit 5 (in 10 innings); Minnesota 5 Chicago 4 (in 10 innings); Kansas City 4 Cleveland 1; Texas 4 California 3; Oakland 3 Seattle 1.

East division

	W	L	Pct	GB
† New York	92	70	.568	—
* Baltimore	88	74	.543	4
Boston	85	77	.525	7
Toronto	74	88	.457	18
Detroit	53	109	.327	39

Central division

† Cleveland	99	62	.615	—
Chicago	85	77	.525	14½
Milwaukee	80	82	.494	19½
Minnesota	78	84	.481	21½
Kansas City	75	86	.466	24

West division

† Texas	90	72	.556	—
Seattle	85	76	.528	4½
Oakland	78	84	.481	12
California	70	91	.435	19½

† denotes division title

NATIONAL LEAGUE: Montreal 6 Atlanta 3; Philadelphia 9 New York 5, Cincinnati 6 St Louis 3; Pittsburgh 8 Chicago 3, Houston 5 Florida 4 (in 10 innings); Colorado 12 San Francisco 3; San Diego 2 Los Angeles 0 (in 11 innings).

East division

	W	L	Pct	GB
† Atlanta	96	66	.593	—
Montreal	88	74	.543	8
Florida	80	82	.494	16
New York	71	91	.438	25
Philadelphia	67	95	.414	29

Central division

† St Louis	88	74	.543	—
Houston	82	80	.506	6
Cincinnati	81	81	.500	7
Chicago	76	86	.469	12
Pittsburgh	73	89	.451	15

West division

† San Diego	91	71	.562	—
* Los Angeles	90	72	.556	1
Colorado	83	79	.512	8
San Francisco	68	94	.420	23

* denotes wild card



Mike Piazza, of the Dodgers, tags out Doug Dascenzo, of the Padres. San Diego won 2-0 to lift the West title

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1. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Legal & General Insurance Limited applied to the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry on 1 October 1996 for his approval, pursuant to schedule 2C of the Insurance Companies Act 1982, to transfer to Guardian Insurance Limited all of its rights and obligations under commercial lines policies written by it in the United Kingdom prior to 1 October 1996.

2. Copies of the Statement of Particulars of the proposed transfer are available for inspection at the office of Legal & General Insurance Limited, 3 Finsbury Square, London EC2 1LL from Monday to Friday between 9.00am to 5.00pm, where particulars may be inspected until * November 1996

3. Written representations concerning the transfer may be sent to the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, Department of Trade and Industry, Insurance Directorate, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET before * December 1996

The Secretary of State will not determine the application until after considering any representations made to him before that date.

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CHANGING TIMES

FOOTBALL: LURE OF ENGLAND'S GREEN AND PLEASANT LAND COULD DISPEL HOME DISCOMFORTS

Klinsmann cornered by enemies within

An open letter to Jürgen Klinsmann

ROB HUGHES



Overseas View

ISN'T it time you came "home"? The grass was green here when you had that splendid season with Tottenham Hotspur, and green again when, despite injury, you led Germany to triumph in the European championship this summer.

At least we, the English, never lost our respect for you. Can you say the same now that the bickering has begun to destroy your Bayern Munich team, now that the Munich that was inspired by your goals to win the Uefa Cup victory only last May has succumbed to Valencia in the first round this season? And, after Bayern's 3-0 defeat by Werder Bremen, even your club president, Franz Beckenbauer, has gone into print blaming "the selfish stars".

All of this, as you well know, has its roots in an apparently insoluble clash of personalities in the dressing room between yourself and Lothar Matthäus, and the signs are that Matthäus, the Germany captain before you and very jealous of what happened in the summer, has the ears of those who matter at Bayern Munich.

Consider the facts. When you left Tottenham Hotspur, for all that Alan Sugar, the chairman, refused your goodwill, and your shirt, the club was more buoyant than it is now.

Indeed, is it too audacious, too romantic, to suggest that a meeting between yourself and Sugar, at some remote venue serving humble pie and champagne, could result in a return to White Hart Lane before winter sets in? Perhaps, like Sugar, you would have to take a backward step; he might even ask you whether you would fit in at centre half for a time while Gary Mabbutt is so sorely missed.

But seriously, London quite obviously still holds its appeal. For one thing you scored goals there.

You have just endured a blank September: eight matches in the *Bundesliga* without a goal, and none in the two Uefa Cup games against Valencia — in fact only a missed penalty that increased the derision in Germany's popular press.

You said in reaction to some *vicious press campaigning*, the finger pointing straight at you, that you saw no reason to stick your head in the sand. You didn't see yourself as being down, rather you suggested there was an attempt by some people to suggest that you were having a crisis.

No crisis, you insisted, just the need for a few goals. But when they didn't come on Saturday, against Bremen, Beckenbauer — strange for a former player in a position of such strength — wrote in his column in *Bild* newspaper: "This selfishness must stop! Every player must be ready to help the other. That's what's been missing."

Well, Jürgen, you are aware, behind your own diplomacy, that much of the press campaign has its source in Matthäus, who slowed two or three years ago when severe injuries and age took their toll, and to some of us neutral observers his lack of pace is not hidden when he tries to occupy the *libero* role.

Matthaus is not what he was, though he refuses to accept that observation. After 122 caps, he thought he had a right to lead Germany, in your stead, at Euro 96. You and he, with Beckenbauer joining the hands, had what was supposed to have been a council of peace while in the United States of America. It didn't last, it cannot last, and the team will remain in at least two factions while you share the same dressing-room. It is like asking a scorpion to share one's bed.

You yourself said on Sunday, after being substituted again at half-time, that the team has major problems in building up around your game, that the faults ran right through the team, that the whole system was not working.

You must know that Matthäus was Beckenbauer's captain when he coached the 1990 World Cup-winning team and also the captain of Inter Milan when Giovanni Trapattoni conquered *Serie A*. Now that Trapattoni has returned to Bayern Munich, despite his failure there two years ago, he and Matthaus and Beckenbauer, possibly even Uli Hoeness, the general manager, and Karl-Heinz Rummenigge, the vice president, are a close unit. Old players united, and Matthaus, at 35, is even older than your 32 years.

We know there is a clause in your contract releasing you at the end of this season. We sensed that there might be relief all round if, after the long scoreless stretch, you went early. This is a bit demeaning, given that you scored a record 15 goals in 12 Uefa cup games a season ago and that you netted nine times in Germany's ten qualifying games for Euro 96.

Running away is not, you may say, your style. But just think of the challenges awaiting here in the place you, and the Germans, found so homely despite the tin-hat journalism.

No one here would deride you and call you "flipper", a crude German newspaper term describing what they see as a lack of instant ball control.

Here, where the goals come easier and where your athleticism is much admired, there would be clubs queueing from Blackburn Rovers to Leeds United and Sheffield Wednesday, perhaps even in your favourite London town, where you would surely find a soulmate in Arsène Wenger. You thought you had that in Otto Rehhagel, the coach at Bayern until he was sacked by Beckenbauer, and paid £1.2m compensation.

In all sincerity, if there is no harmony to be found in your homeland, come and try ours once again.

DENIS DOYLE



Klinsmann has borne the brunt of Bayern Munich's failings in domestic and European competition this season

FA meeting fails to settle crisis at Brighton

BY JOHN GOODBODY

THE future of Brighton and Hove Albion is still unresolved. Not even a four-hour meeting, brokered yesterday by the Football Association, could settle the differences between the present board and the consortium trying to take over the Nationwide League third division club, which is on the verge of extinction.

The FA is worried that frustrated Brighton supporters, who last season invaded the pitch and forced the abandonment of the match against York City, may repeat their demonstration against the present board during the match with Lincoln City tonight.

Steve Double, the FA spokesman, said: "We appeal to the Brighton followers not to do anything ill-advised." After the game against York, the club is under a suspended sentence of playing one match behind closed doors and having three points deducted.

The struggle is between the present board, chaired by Bill Archer, and the consortium, which is backed by most of the supporters, and includes McAlpine, the building company, and Hove Council. Graham Kelly, the FA chief executive, and John Ryder, the chairman of the FA membership committee, yesterday tried unsuccessfully to resolve the differences.

Double said: "We have a stalemate. The current directors are not prepared to sell out 100 per cent to the consortium, while the consortium is insistent that it must have 100 per cent ownership. There are no immediate plans for another meeting."

Affairs have become desperate for Brighton, who are now 88th of the 92 League clubs. This year, they are expected to lose at least £1 million and will be evicted from the Goldstone Ground at the end of the season by Chartwell Properties, the owners.

Wycombe Wanderers yesterday parted company with Alan Smith, their manager, and David Kemp, his assistant. Wycombe, bottom of the second division with only four points from their opening nine games, have been plagued by the opposition to Smith, the former Crystal Palace manager, from many supporters. Neil Smillie, the youth team coach, takes over.

The FA yesterday charged Gary Brabin, the Blackpool defender, with bringing the game into disrepute after an alleged assault on Jamie Bates, the Brentford captain, after the game at Griffin Park on September 14.

Manage. to meet referees for clear the air talks

BY DAVID MADDOCK

THE Football Association has invited representatives of the League Managers' Association to meet referees in an attempt to open a dialogue between the parties. Relations have been strained this season as managers have become frustrated with over-zealous refereeing.

Already, four managers in the FA Carling Premiership have been reported to the FA on disrepute charges for comments made to referees, and a fifth, Peter Reid, of Sunderland, seems sure to follo *after he was ordered from the* dug-out at Highbury at the weekend. In addition, bookings have reached record levels, with the average touching four per game, up almost 100 per cent on last season.

The FA has asked John Barnwell, the general secretary of the managers' union, to attend a Premier League referees' seminar at Sutton Coldfield on Saturday. David Pleat, the Sheffield Wednesday manager, will join him.

Ian Wright, the Arsenal forward, is likely to join Reid at an FA disciplinary hearing. He has been asked for his comments after calling Pleat a "pervert".

Wright tried to distance himself from the comment yesterday, when he said: "I didn't mean to offend and it came out in a different way that caused a lot of distress to Mr Pleat and his family. I have spoken to him and I can't apologise enough. He was pleased that I called and he accepted my apology, which makes me feel even worse, because he showed that he is a class act."

Paul McGrath, 36, the Aston Villa defender, was told yesterday that he would not be allowed to leave the club unless a prospective buyer was prepared to meet a £200,000 asking price. Coventry City are interested in signing McGrath, who is keen to leave Villa Park after losing his place in the team this season, but are reluctant to pay a fee for him.



McGrath: wants to move

YESTERDAY'S RACING RESULTS

Bath

Going: good

2.00 (5f 161yd) 1, SABINA (L Dettori, 7-4 fav, Richard Evans's nap); 2, Tigrella (Pat Eddery, 4-1); 3, Just Nick (J Reid, 15-2). ALSO RAN: 2 Daring Flight, 12 Zalim (5th), 20 Dominant Air, 33 Tayovullin (6th), Wee Dram (4th), 50 Sweet Bettsie, 100 Alpine Music, Keepsake, Perchance To Dream, 12 ran. NR: Aim Seven, Ma Vielle Pouque. 1¾l, 1¼l, nk, 1¾l, ¾l. I Balding at Kingsclere. Tote: £2.90; £1.30, £1.60, £1.90. DF: £8.50. Trio: £17.10. CSF: £9.54.

2.30 (2m 1f 34yd) 1, NUZU (M Hills, 7-1); 2, Inchcailloch (A Clark, 7-1); 3, Jelail (T Sprake, 50-1). ALSO RAN: 2-1 fav Blaze Away, 100-30 Bellara, 10 Bold Classic (6th), Farringdon Hill, Sea Freedom (4th), 20 Teen Jay (5th), 25 Rocquaine Bay, 50 Mu-Tadil, 100 Great Simplicity. 12 ran. 4l, 7l, 1½l, 23l, 1l. B Hills at Lambourn. Tote: £9.60, £2.60, £1.70, £10.30. DF: £31.20. CSF: £52.72. Tricast: £2,097.64.

3.00 (1m 2f 46yd) 1, ELDORADO (J Reid, 11-2). 2, Slip The Net (T Quinn, 2-7 fav), 3, Drive Assured (B Doyle, 13-2). ALSO RAN: 40 Bonne Ville (5th), 50 Wesley's Lad (4th), 66 Southern Chief (6th). 6 ran. 2½l, 13l, nk, sh hd, 23l. M Johnston at Middleham. Tote: £5.80; £2.80, £1.10. DF: £1.90. CSF: £7.43.

3.30 (1m 2f 46yd) 1, PASTERNAK (S Sanders, 9-2). 2, King Kato (J Reid, 4-1), 3, Medfee (Pat Eddery, 9-4 fav). ALSO RAN: 5-2 Kutman (4th), 13-2 Mutanassib (6th), 20 Reticent, 25 Flamanda, 50 War Shanty (5th), 100 Haddll, Kowtow. 10 ran. NR: Lady Joshua. Sh hd, 10l, 2½l, nk, 1¼l. M Prescott at Newmarket. Tote: £6.90; £1.90, £1.90, £1.30. DF: £17.40. Trio: £24.90. CSF: £22.95.

4.00 (1m 5yd) 1, ALI-ROYAL (Pat Eddery, 11-10 fav); 2, Nijo (L Dettori, 7-2); 3, Story Line (T Quinn, 13-2). ALSO RAN: 5 Jarah (5th), 10 Maralinga (4th), 50 Iamus (6th). 6 ran. 12l, 3½l, 3½l, hd, hd. H Cecil at Newmarket. Tote: £1.90; £1.40, £2.00. DF: £3.00. CSF: £5.15.

4.30 (1m 5yd) 1, SHOULDBEGREY (Amanda Sanders, 13-2); 2, Jilly Beveled (David O'Neill, 9-1); 3, Scimitar (D Sweeney, 20-1). 4, One In The Eye (R Mullen, 33-1). ALSO RAN: 9-2 fav Debadale (9th), 11-2 Secret Pleasure, 15-2 Samara Song, 9 College Night (5th), 11 Fastini Gold, 12 Northern Saga, 16 Rose Tint, 20 Calandrella, Impetuous Lady, 25 Covered Girl, 33 Duralock Fencer, Lovely Morning, River Wye. 17 ran. NR: Jona Holley. 1¼l, 1l, hd, hd, 2½l. W Muir at Lambourn. Tote: £10.30, £1.30, £1.90, £5.80, £6.20. DF: £38.80. Trio: £416.10. CSF: £61.77. Tricast: £1,025.93.

Jackpot: £7,333.50 (0.09 winning tickets. Pool of £9,399.38 carried forward to Newmarket today).

Placepot: £180.50. Quadpot: £8.60.

Hamilton Park

Going: good to soft, good in places

2.15 (1m 65yd) 1, HINDSIGHT (K Fallon, 2-5 fav); 2, Lightning Rebel (D McKeown, 16-1); 3, Moorbird (J Weaver, 14-1). ALSO RAN: 7 Coral Island (4th), 8 Blown-Over (6th), 100 Manileno (5th). 6 ran. ¼l, 7l, 11l, ¾l, sh hd. W Haggas at Newmarket. Tote: £1.40; £1.10, £4.70. DF: £5.50. CSF: £8.77.

2.45 (1m 65yd) 1, CAJUN SUNSET (K Darley, 11-2); 2, Presentiment (J Tate, 10-1); 3, Leviticus (D McKeown, 5-2 fav). ALSO RAN: 7-2 Lord Discord (4th), 4 Juicy Ting (8th), 9 Hurgill Times (5th), 40 Chanson D'Amour. 7 ran. 1¼l, 1¾l, 1½l, 9l, 10l. T Easterby at Malton. Tote: £4.90; £3.00, £3.00. DF: £13.30. CSF: £46.82.

3.15 (1m 4f 17yd) 1, AYUNLI (J Tate, 7-2 jt-fav); 2, Soba Up (M Birch, 16-1). 3, Eau De Cologne (D McKeown, 7-1). ALSO RAN: 7-2 jt-fav Mantalassorythin, 15-2 Epidos, 9 Pharly Dancer, 10 Ashover, 12 Break The Rules (4th), 16 Giftbox, 20 Monument, 25 Victor Leszlo, 33 Astral Weeks, Lord Advocate (5th), 50 Swandale Flyer (6th). 14 ran. 5l, 3l, hd, 1l, 1½l. S Williams at Newmarket. Tote: £4.70; £2.70, £4.50, £3.50. DF: £15.50. Trio: £76.50. CSF: £54.59. Tricast: £352.51.

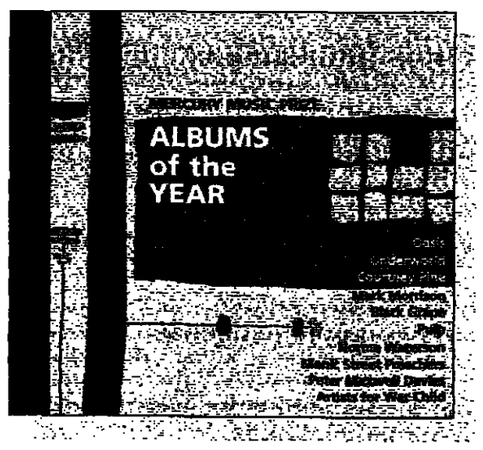
3.45 (1m 3f 16yd) 1, MANFUL (N Kennedy, 7-2; Thunderer's nap); 2, Askern (J Weaver, 13-8 fav); 3, Arc Of The Diver (K Darley, 8-1). ALSO RAN: 9-2 North Ardar (4th), 7 Latvian (5th), 20 Deveers Cuma, Mootaji (6th), 66 Bridlington Bay, 200 Walk In The Wild, 400 Midas Man. 10 ran. 5l, 1¾l, 1½l, 12l, 2l. C W Elsey at Malton. Tote: £5.70, £1.30, £1.80. £1.50. DF: £7.70. Trio: £18.60. CSF: £8.93.

4.15 (6f 5yd) 1, MIDNIGHT BLUE (J Weaver, 15-2), 2, King of Peru (R Cochrane, 7-1); 3, King Of The East (K Fallon, 4-1). ALSO RAN: 7-2 fav Espartaro (6th), 4 Montendre, 7 Princely Hush, 10 Selhurstpark Flyer, 14 Kunucu (4th), 20 Dovebrace, 100 Naissant (5th). 10 ran. NR: Six For Luck. 1½l, hd, 1½l, nk, 5l. W Jarvis at Newmarket. Tote: £5.30; £1.80, £2.80, £1.80. DF: £19.60. Trio: £41.40. CSF: £55.83.

4.45 (6l 5yd) 1, BATALEUR (C Scudder, 20-1); 2, Desert Invader (L James, 16-1); 3, Magic Lake (J Fowle, 10-1); 4, Disco Boy (Anthony Bond, 14-1). ALSO RAN: 5-1 fav Craigie Boy, 7 Brookhead Lady, Lunoh Parry, 10 Hamilton Gold, Henry The Hawk, Hoh Majestic, 14 Another Nightmare, 16 Blow Dry, Sunday Mail Too, 20 Butlerwick Belle, Dil Dil, Leading Princess (5th), Miss Aragon (6th), 33 Impigiate. 18 ran. Sh hd, 3l, 1l, 1½l, ½l. Miss J Bower at Grantham. Tote: £38.30; £4.40, £4.40, £5.10. £4.30. DF: £237.80. Trio: £921.40 (part won; pool of £1,038.26 carried forward to 2.05 at Newmarket today). CSF: £297.30. Tricast: £3,194.88.

Placepot: £443.30. Quadpot: £116.30.

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THE TIMES MERCURY CD TOKEN 3

CHANGING TIMES

FOR THE RECORD

BASKETBALL

BUDWEISER LEAGUE: Chester 84 Manchester 82; Leicester 86 Derby 71; Sheffield 76 Worthing 68.

	P	W	L	F	A	Pts
London	4	4	0	357	282	8
Sheffield	5	4	1	419	378	8
Chester	4	3	1	343	321	6
Derby	6	3	3	546	554	6
Manchester	5	3	2	380	392	6
Newcastle	3	3	0	291	258	6
Birmingham	4	2	2	326	320	4
Leicester	3	2	1	237	212	4
Leopards	4	2	2	361	361	4
Thames Valley	5	2	3	479	480	4
Crystal Palace	5	1	4	375	420	2
Hemel and Watford	5	0	5	427	535	0
Worthing	5	0	5	360	418	0

CYCLING

SAINT LO, France: Normandy Duet: 1, C Boardman and P Manning (GB) 1hr 02min 15sec; 2, J-F Arn and S Cueff (Fr) 1:05:43; 3, P Lance (Fr) and M Lesnewski (Pol) 1:06:15.

TIME-TRIALS: Worthing Excelsior (Pulborough, 28.2 miles): 1, M Sinnott (Eastwell) 1hr 07min 21sec; 2, M Jones (Stella) 1:07:30; 3, M Marchant (Stella) 1:07:38. Team: Stella 3:26:16. A5 Rangers (two-up, Towcester, 25 miles): 1, J Cross and A Parks (North Bucks) 55min 36sec; 2, R Manovi and M Purshouse (Warwickshire) 55:41; 3, M Stephenson and M Yardley (Spalding) 56:19.

HILL-CLIMB: Border CA (Brockham Hill, Alton, Hampshire, 1,600 yards): 1, T Lawn (Kingston) 3min 06.3sec; 2, K Richardson (Slough) 3:17.5; 3, C Bowden (Elizabethan) 3:31.5. Team: Farnham 11:28.0.

CYCLO-CROSS: Three Peaks (North Yorkshire, 60 kilometres): 1, A Peace (Pace Satellite TV) 3hr 09min 37sec; 2, R Jebb (Helmith Bridge) at 36sec, 3, C Young (Pace Satellite TV) at 3min 33sec.

FOOTBALL

FA CUP: Third qualifying round draw: Gateshead v Workington; Bishop Auckland v Durham City; Consett; Morecambe v Ampld Town or Flixton; Stalybridge Celtic v Ashton United; Fridley Athletic v Newcastle Town; Leek Town v Gainsborough Trinity; Farsley Celtic v Whitby Town, Southport or Emley v Burton Albion, Leigh RMI or Billingham Synthonia v Marine; Atherton LR v Bamber Bridge; North Ferriby United v Lancaster City; Ilettering Town or Atherstone United v Hinckley Athletic or Bedworth, United; Rushden and Diamonds v Desborough Town or Bilston Town; Hednesford Town v Tamworth; Solihull Borough or Shepshed Dynamo v Stourbridge or Knypersley, Victoria; Boston United v Sudbury Wanderers, Wroxham or Cambridge City v Canvey Island or Grantham Town; Heybridge Swifts or Chelmsford City v Wisbech Town; Sudbury Town v Billericay Town or Corby Town, Stevenage Borough or Baldock Town v Braintree Town, Hayes or Grays Athletic v Chesham United; Dagenham and Redbridge or Harrow Borough v Uxbridge; Boreham Wood v Edgware Town; St Albans City or Yeading v Hampton or Stansted; Famborough Town v Bracknell Town; Welling United v Herne Bay; Dover Athletic v Hendon or Fisher Athletic (London), Hastings Town v Molesey or Tonbridge; Bromley v St Leonards Stamcroft; Tooting and Mitcham United v Staines Town, Fareham Town v Witney Town, Bashley v Thatcham Town; Cheltenham Town v Weymouth; Bath City v Cirencester Town; Merthyr Tydfil v Trowbridge Town; Tiverton Town v Yeovil Town or Taunton Town. ☐ *Ties to be played on October 12*

Sunday's late results

DUTCH LEAGUE: RKC Waalwijk 1 NAC Breda 2, Sparta Rotterdam 1 NEC Nijmegen 0; Vitasse Arnhem 4 Feyenoord 2; Twente Enschede 1 Ajax 1; Groningen 1 AZ67 Alkmaar 0; Volendam 2 SC Heerenveen 2; Utrecht 2 PSV Eindhoven 2

FRENCH LEAGUE: Guingamp 2 Paris Saint-Germain 2.

GERMAN LEAGUE: SV Hamburg 1 MSV Duisburg 1; Werder Bremen 3 Bayern Munich 0; Schalke 04 1 Bayer Leverkusen 1; SC Freiburg 1 Hansa Rostock 0; Munich 1860 2 VfB Stuttgart 5; Fortuna Düsseldorf 1 Borussia Mönchengladbech 0; Borussia Dortmund 2 St Pauli 1.

ITALIAN LEAGUE: Juventus 1 Fiorentina 0

SPANISH LEAGUE: Tenerife 6 Sporting Gijon 0; Real Zaragoza 3 Barcelona 5; Real Oviedo 2 Real Madrid 3; Logrohés 2 Sevilla 0; Compostela 0 Valencia 3; Rayo Vallecano 3 Celta Vigo 0.

ARGENTINIAN LEAGUE: Rosario Central 1 San Lorenzo 2; Banfield 1 Velez Sarsfield 3; Estudiantes de La Plata 2 Colon 3; Racing 0 Gimnasia Esgrima 1, Gimnasia de Jujuy 1 Lanus 2; Deportivo Español 2 Ferro Carril Oeste 2; Huracan 1 Newell's Old Boys 1; Union 0 Independiente 1; Boca Juniors 3 River Plate 2.

BRAZILIAN LEAGUE: Coritiba 3 Fluminense 1, Santos 1 Internacional 2, Goias 1 Flamengo 3; Botatogo 3 Bragantino 0; Vasco da Gama 0 Corinthians 0; Gremio 1 Portuguesa 0, Parana 1 Atletico-PR 4, Vitoria 0 Juventude 5; Cruzeiro 2 Criciuma 1, Atletico-MG 4 Bahia 1; Sport 1 Guarani 0, Palmeiras 2 São Paulo 1

INTERNATIONAL MATCHES: Zimbabwe 1 Tanzania 0 (in Harare); Gabon 1 Mali 1 (in Libreville)

WOMEN'S EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIP: Play-off, second leg: England 1 Spain 1 (Spain win 3-2 on agg; at Tranmere Rovers FC)

GOLF

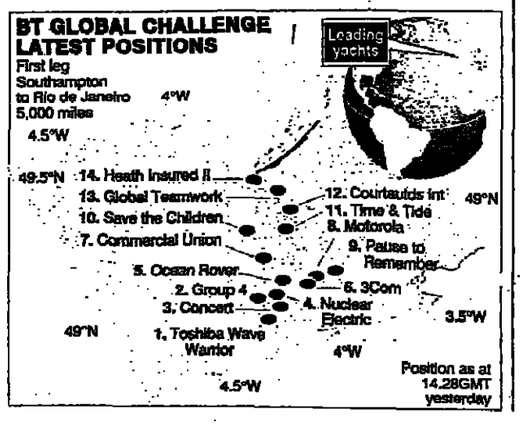
CLEMMONS, North Carolina: Senior Vantage championship: Leading final scores (US unless stated): 204: J Colbert 65, 70, 69. 205: K Zarley 66, 71, 68, H Irwin 69, 67, 69; G Player (SA) 70, 65, 70. 206: M Hill 68, 70, 68; J Bland 67, 70, 69; J C Snead 68, 68, 72. 207: D January 68, 71, 70; D Weaver 66, 71, 70. *Other scores: 208: S Hobday (SA)* Elpidos, 9 Pharly Dancer, 10 Ashover, 12 Break The Rules (4th), 16 Giftbox, 20 Monument, 25 *Victor Leszlo*, 33 Astral Weeks, Lord Advocate (5th), 50 Swandale Flyer (6th). 14 ran. 5l, 3l, hd, 1l, 1½l. S Williams at Newmarket. Tote: £4.70; £2.70, £4.50, £3.50. DF: £15.50. Trio: £76.50. CSF: £54.59. Tricast: £352.51.

3.45 (1m 3f 16yd) 1, MANFUL (N Kennedy, 7-2; Thunderer's nap); 2, Askern (J Weaver, 13-8 fav); 3, Arc Of The Diver (K Darley, 8-1). ALSO RAN: 9-2 North Ardar (4th), 7 Latvian (5th), 20 Deveers Cuma, Mootaji (6th), 66 Bridlington Bay, 200 Walk In The Wild, 400 Midas Man. 10 ran. 5l, 1¾l, 1½l, 12l, 2l. C W Elsey at Malton. Tote: £5.70, £1.30, £1.80. £1.50. DF: £7.70. Trio: £18.60. CSF: £8.93.

4.15 (6f 5yd) 1, MIDNIGHT BLUE (J Weaver, 15-2), 2, King of Peru (R Cochrane, 7-1); 3, King Of The East (K Fallon, 4-1). ALSO RAN: 7-2 fav Espartaro (6th), 4 Montendre, 7 Princely Hush, 10 Selhurstpark Flyer, 14 Kunucu (4th), 20 Dovebrace, 100 Naissant (5th). 10 ran. NR: Six For Luck. 1½l, hd, 1½l, nk, 5l. W Jarvis at Newmarket. Tote: £5.30; £1.80, £2.80, £1.80. DF: £19.60. Trio: £41.40. CSF: £55.83.

4.45 (6l 5yd) 1, BATALEUR (C Scudder, 20-1); 2, Desert Invader (L James, 16-1); 3, Magic Lake (J Fowle, 10-1); 4, Disco Boy (Anthony Bond, 14-1). ALSO RAN: 5-1 fav Craigie Boy, 7 Brookhead Lady, Lunoh Parry, 10 Hamilton Gold, Henry The Hawk, Hoh Majestic, 14 Another Nightmare, 16 Blow Dry, Sunday Mail Too, 20 Butlerwick Belle, Dil Dil, Leading Princess (5th), Miss Aragon (6th), 33 Impigiate. 18 ran. Sh hd, 3l, 1l, 1½l, ½l. Miss J Bower at Grantham. Tote: £38.30; £4.40, £4.40, £5.10, £4.30. DF: £237.80. Trio: £921.40 (part won; pool of £1,038.26 carried forward to 2.05 at Newmarket today). CSF: £297.30. Tricast: £3,194.88.

Placepot: £443.30. Quadpot: £116.30.



Whitham 22:43.97, 6, Simpson 22:54.90. Fastest lap: Rymer 54.46sec (79.5kmph). Championship positions: equal 1, Whitham and Mackenzie 34pts; 3, Rymer 21?; 4, Rutter 19?, 5, S Hislop 16?, 6, J Moodie 15?

MOTOR RALLYING

HISTORIC RALLY BRISTOWE (Somerset): 1, I Meaken (Saab 96) 1mm 25sec; 2, P Heal (MGB GT) 5:00; 3, G Twigg (Mini Cooper S) 5:23.

SOLWAY HISTORIC RALLY (Cumbria): 1, K Woodburn (Lotus Elan) 12mm 37sec; 2, A Baillie (Austin Healey Sprite) 15:17; 3, R Palmer (Cortina GT) 24:23

GLYN MEMORIAL STAGES (Anglesey): 1, M Oates (Subaru Impreza) 40min 51sec, 2, R Dawes (Escort Cosworth) 41:51; 3, R Reynolds (Escort) 42:30

RALI MYNYDD DU (South Wales): 1, J Evans (Avengor) 8min 25sec; 2, W Jones (Escort) 10:46; 3, T Davies (VW Golf) 11:31

RUGBY UNION

SCHOOLS MATCHES: Colston's 39 Bristol GS 10; Hulme GS 0 Rishworth 100; Kirkham GS 55 King Edward VII, Lytham 5

SHOOTING

BISLEY: North London rifle club revolver championship: 1, C Valentine 312pts; 2, H Hayke 272; 3, G Hormigos 264. 4, T Hayward 261

SNOOKER

MOTHERWELL: Regal Masters: Final: P Ebdon (Eng) bt A McManus (Scot) 9-6

SPEEDWAY

PREMIER LEAGUE: Scottish Monarchs 59 Bradford 43.

TABLE TENNIS

HONG KONG: Women's World Cup: Semi-finals: Deng Yaping (China) bt M Svensson (Swe) 21-13, 21-14, 21-11; Yang Ying (China) bt Wang Chen (China) 21-18, 21-15, 21-5. Play-off for third place: Wang bt Svensson 20-21, 21-15, Final: Deng bt Yang 21-18, 21-18, 21-17.

TENNIS

ATLANTIC CITY: Fed Cup: Final: United States bt Spain 5-0 (M Seles bt C Martinez 6-2, 6-4, L Davenport bt A Sánchez Vicario 7-5, 6-1; Seles bt Sánchez Vicario 3-6, 6-3, 6-1; Davenport bt G L Garcia 7-5, 6-2; M J Fernandez and L Wild bt Garcia and V Ruano-Pascal 6-1, 6-4).

SINGAPORE: Men's tournament: First round: T Johansson (Swe) bt S Draper (Aus) 6-4, 3-6, 6-3; J Stark (US) bt J-P Fleurian (Fr) 6-7, 6-3, 6-3; A Olmovsky (Russ) bt T Srichaphan (Thai) 6-2, 6-0; G Stafford (SA) bt M Damm (Cz) 7-6, 6-0; G Raoux (Fr) bt N Godwin (SA) 6-3, 6-3; P Rafter (Aus) bt S Matsuoka (Japan) 6-4, 6-2.

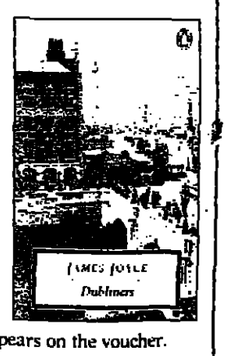
VOLLEYBALL

NATIONAL LEAGUE: Men: First division: City of Stoke 3 Warwick Riga 0. Women: First division: K L E A Leeds 0 Essex Estonians 3; Orpington 0 Reebok Liverpool City 3; Ashcombe Guildford 2 Manchester United Salford 3; Birmingham 3 Loughborough 2, London Malory 0 Britannia Music City 3.

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THE TIMES WIN YOUR RENT FOR A YEAR TOKEN 2

THE TIMES 2 FOR 1 BOOKS TOKEN 2

CHANGING TIMES

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Referees to get penalty try guidance

By David Hands
Rugby Correspondent

THE penalty try, which has become so prevalent in rugby this season, is to receive its own rule of thumb from the Rugby Football Union (RFU). Referees will be given a sequence of events for guidance when sides are attacking close to the opposition line so as to clarify the award of what used to be one of the rarest options in the official's armoury.

Coaches and referees met at Bisham Abbey over the weekend to review the first month of the season. Considering how frequently referees become the whipping boys for the game's ills, the officials will be delighted at the encouragement that they received.

"Most people are quite pleased at the way referees have started the season," Rob Smith, the Wasps coach, said. "The responsibility now is on the coaches and players to try to adjust to the consistent approach of referees. We have a long way to go because there are a lot of mistakes happening as people try to play a positive game, for which the skill levels are not quite high enough."

Referees will be told that three penalties for persistent infringement close to the try-line will earn a side a warning, followed by the award of a penalty try for a fourth offence, though those criteria do not preclude the award of a penalty try at any stage if the referee believes it to be justified. It is, however, the hope of most officials that the message that they are sending out to players will finally be forced home.

"Quite a few of us are concerned at the number of penalty tries in the game," Ed Morrison, England's leading referee, said, "but, on the other hand, we have to accept that people will be more cynical.

"Our aim is to give people the chance to play and, if we can free up ball at the tackle, which is where so many penalties arise, that gives players the chance to determine their tactical approach.

"But what is in front of us this season has changed. The attitude of players has been tremendous and they have taken on their responsibilities in a first-class way. We are refereeing a different article."

The RFU has gone further in drawing the attention of individual players to the number of penalties that they concede in internationals, with letters having gone to Graham Rowntree and Martin Johnson, two of Leicester's England players, and Lawrence Dallaglio, of Wasps. This is a timely reminder of the need for self-discipline even in moments of considerable stress from players who have become role models for many youngsters.

Johnson attracted a yellow card during his club's game with Gloucester last Saturday, though, unlike last season, there is no totting-up procedure in operation. A year ago, two yellow cards were the equivalent of a red dismissal card; now, that will operate in the context of only one game and Smith points out that one player may receive repeated warnings from match to match without there being an end consequence, making it a pointless exercise.

"The penalty try is good news, particularly if the point is made early in the match when players go over the top and kill the ball," he said. "The pressure only comes on the referee if one side is chasing the game in the last five minutes and the award decides the match.

"I tell my players that, if a penalty try is awarded, rather than a try being scored out wide, then effectively you have given two more points away. Besides, if you are confident in your tackling, let them have the ball.

"The tackle area has become vital now and I can see a situation where clubs remould their squads on the basis of players' ability to get round the field, being able to defend as well as attack. Look at the lineout — anyone can win ball there now if they are lifted properly. That sort of skill may be going from the game, which is worrying, but you have to know what else you can get from your players."

Rugby pays price for professionalism

By David Hands

THERE is scarcely an ambitious rugby club in England or Wales that does not expect to make an operating loss in the first season of the professional game, a point rubbed in at Cardiff's annual meeting last night. From a surplus last season of nearly £320,000, a loss is predicted on the present season of anything up to £500,000.

Gareth Davies, the club's chief executive, could not predict with any accuracy the likely loss because of the unknown factor of television revenue, but he makes no bones about where the problem lies. "If the Anglo-Welsh tournament and the European Cup had been properly organised, we would have been looking at another hefty and healthy profit," he said, "but, at this moment, you could say they are in smithereens."

Last season Cardiff reached the final of the Heineken Cup, but this season they made a poor start to the Welsh league programme and have been forced to reschedule their first two Anglo-Welsh games. Some clubs have also chosen to regard the Anglo-Welsh as a development tournament, though, in fairness, they have to rotate players between demanding domestic league games and also keep sizeable squads in gainful employment.

Cardiff, generally regarded as one of the wealthiest clubs in Wales, have a wage bill of £750,000 this season and Davies describes the financial situation with which clubs are faced as "the entrance fee for professionalism". His club's deficit could be as little as £150,000, but it could be substantially more.

"Any business in a start-up situation would be fortunate to trade in the black in its first year," Geoff Huckstep, the chief executive of Wasps, whose annual meeting was last week, said. Wasps are forecasting a small loss, after putting together what Huckstep describes as a "prudent budget", which did not reflect television income. "The key areas are merchandising, bars and catering, and we have been very encouraged in these areas at Loftus Road," he said.

Meanwhile, this week's round of Anglo-Welsh matches sees Bath field Henry Paul at full back for the first time, against Llanelli at Stradey Park tonight. Jason Robinson, their other import from Wigan, plays on the wing alongside two young centres, Joe Ewens and Matt Perry. Audley Lumsden, a former Bath favourite, makes his bow at full back for Gloucester against Dunvant tomorrow and yet another, Andy Reed, plays lock for Wasps against Neath.

GOLF: BRITON PUTS SOLHEIM CUP DISAPPOINTMENT BEHIND HER WITH RECORD-BREAKING SUCCESS

Johnson proves too hot for Pepper

By Our Sports Staff

A WEEK is a long time, in golf as it is in politics, and if anybody doubts that, then they should ask Trish Johnson, the European Open champion. She was one of those convincingly beaten in her singles match on the final day of the Solheim Cup as the United States brushed aside Europe's finest, yet, on Sunday, seven days after that disappointment, she was celebrating a remarkable victory, shooting a career-low, course-record 64 to win the Fieldcrest Cannon Classic in Cornelius, North Carolina.

If Johnson's word is not enough, then perhaps any doubters might like to seek out Dottie Pepper. It was Pepper who beat Johnson 3 and 2 in that singles match and it was Pepper who began the final round in Cornelius with a two-stroke lead over the best of the rest of the field, only to drop away as Johnson stormed through to win by three strokes. Worse, Pepper began the day four shots ahead of Johnson; she ended it four behind.

Final scores 48

Johnson, who had not won a US LPGA event since winning the Las Vegas LPGA at Canyon Gate and the Atlanta Women's Championship in 1993, finished on 270, 18 under par, three shots better than Kim Saiki, who was seeking her first win in five years on the Tour and closed with a round of 68. Pepper, who had three consecutive rounds under 70 before her final 71, was going for her fifth title of the year.

"I don't know where it came from, really — the best round of golf in my life; I've never played like that before," Johnson said afterwards.

On the final day of the Solheim Cup, she led Pepper by one hole at the turn; this time, there was no such suspense. Johnson birdied two of her first three holes on the way to a bogey-free final round that was two strokes lower than her previous best score in nine years on the American Tour. "I'd swap this in a heartbeat to have won last week," she said, "but it's very nice. It's very satisfying, to say the least.

"It sounds ridiculous when you shoot a 64, but it could have been a lot better. There were a couple of putts out there that I would have bet my life on that they were going in. I guess that's what people mean by 'being in the zone'."

Johnson's final-round score was one stroke lower than the course record at the Peninsula Club, which was staging the tournament for the second year. It was also three shots better than the total posted by Gail Graham, the 1995 winner, on the 6,318-yard layout along the shores of Lake Norman.

Johnson birdied eight holes, starting with the 1st, then the 3rd, both with putts from ten feet, and picked up further shots at the 7th and 9th (where she holed a 60-foot putt). She started the inward nine with a birdie on the 10th and finished in style, picking up further shots at the 15th, 16th and 18th.

Saiki also had a bogey-free round. She made par on the first seven holes before making birdie on the next three, capping off her round by sinking a 25-foot birdie putt on the 400-yard 17th hole.

"I'm not disappointed," Saiki said. "This is just another great experience. I kept looking at the board and thinking: 'Wow! Trish is on fire today!' If I had made an eagle on 18, I still wouldn't have won — it just would have looked better."

NELL REDMOND



Johnson is a study in concentration as she lines up her putt on the 14th on her way to victory in the Fieldcrest Cannon Classic

Quaker Ridge squad

SEVEN Englishmen, six Scots, five Irishmen and three Welshmen make up the 21-strong squad from which it is expected the Great Britain and Ireland Walker Cup team to play the United States at Quaker Ridge, New York, on August 9 and 10, 1997, will be chosen (John Hopkins writes). Barclay Howard, Jody Fanagan, Graham Rankin and Gary Wolstenholme were in the team that beat the United States at Royal Porthcawl last September. Michael Brooks and Keith Nolan have been selected with Howard and Wolstenholme to play for Great Britain and Ireland in the world amateur team championship in November.

SQUAD: M Blackey (Hayling), W Bladon (Kenilworth), M Brooks (Carlyke), M Carver (West Kent), N Edwards (Whitchurch), J Fanagan (Milltown), P Fenton (Huddersfield), A Forsyth (Ralston), B Howard (Cochrane Castle), P Lawrie (UCD & Newlands), S Mackenzie (West Linton), K Nolan (Bray), D Park (Burghill Valley), G Rankin (Paisley), G Spring (Tralee), I Taylor (Brynhill), S Webster (Ilkley), R Wiggins (Portland), G Wolstenholme (Bristol & Clifton), S Young (Inverallochy)

COMPANY GOLF DAYS RESULTS

The best top scorers in the individual Stableford competitions played on the company golf days listed below now comprise the company team eligible to qualify for a regional final.

TITLE SPONSOR Mees Pierson

Date	Company name	Venue	Score
5 AUG	ERNST & YOUNG T HARRIS 45 * D BROOKER 42 * J DOUGHERTY 42 * K FERGUSON 41	ASHRIDGE	178
6 SEP	MANN MOTORSHIPS LTD M REEVES 35 J BRIGHTMAN 29 * A ATKINS 33 * I POWRY 34	SOUTH WINCHESTER	131
10 SEP	MANAGEMENT SCIENCE LTD M SHEEHAN 29 S ALLEN 34 T&TERRY 35 P JELLEY 34	BROCKET HALL	132
12 SEP	I C L (NORTH) D MAXWELL 38 * D FILLER 41 * M COFFEY 40 * R MATHERS 40	ROCKMOUNT	160
12 SEP	C.L.C. GROUP LTD N BLACKBURN 35 E CANTINI 32 * N DUNBE 38 * A SEAGROVE 41	WATERLOOVILLE	146
13 SEP	BROWN SHIPLEY & CO LTD S ALDRIDGE 33 * F AYLOTT 40 * N SUNDERLAND 38 * S BUSSMAN 36	HUNTLESHAM HALL	147
17 SEP	M V A D MCINNES 40 J THOMAS 37 P SAINTER 35 H NEFFENDORF 33	PYRFORD	145
18 SEP	ACOUSTAFOAM GROUP J WATTS 38 M TRANTOR 38 * D EVANS 38 * N HAMILTON 43	WORFIELD	159
19 SEP	COLIN BUCKLE & COMPANY C BUCKLE 36 * P MURRAY 39 * M CREEDY 38 * J HOFFMAN 38	SANDY LODGE	151
19 SEP	DIGITAL EQUIPMENT CO LTD D ANTILL 35 D WARDROPE 36 * S HARRIS 35 * D SMITH 34	THE WARWICKSHIRE	140
19 SEP	THE CHANGE PARTNERSHIP LTD P HOBARTH 23 * R MOIR 34 * M CARROLL 33 * A GOODMAN 32	DULWICH & SYDENHAM HILL	122
19 SEP	EDWARD LEWIS R LEWIS 34 D BASTERFIELD 29 N DELL 28 M HUGHES 29	HADLEY WOOD	120
20 SEP	REUTERS LTD (COLUMBA) S BOYLE 40 P ARNETT 37 J WOODHEAD 37 * R WOOD 38	ADDINGTON PALACE	152
20 SEP	C.M.L. LTD F WALLACE 33 * J ROBINSON 40 * A CALLOWAY 39 * D BROWN 38	ORMEAU	150
20 SEP	ACCO EUROPE/PROTOOL R HASLAM 34 * P SYMONDS 40 * H DEAR 36 * N BATE 37	GREETHAM VALLEY	147
20 SEP	BIRMINGHAM MIDSHIRES MORTGAGE SERVICES P ISAACS 35 * V UNSWORTH 37 * M WARNER 36 * S FLEET 35	LHARDELOT	143
20 SEP	BROOKVALE KITCHENS J ROBINSON 35 * M WILKINSON 38 * D REID 34 * S JESS 33	ROCKMOUNT	140
20 SEP	BRITISH MIDLAND AIRWAYS P HUNT 29 * M CLEWS 39 * DR J GARNHAM 34 * T RYAN 32	ROYAL MID SURREY	134
20 SEP	DERBYSHIRE BUILDING SOCIETY J SHEFFIELD 33 R STONE 33 * D MARSH 34 * W LLOYD 32	CHEVIN	132
20 SEP	HARVEST AGRICULTURAL SUPPLIES S RADFORD 34 * T POND 36 * M DILKS 33 * C THORNALLY 34	RUTLAND COUNTY	131
20 SEP	MITIE GROUP PLC A GAVRILOVIC 31 R MURPHY 30 J HINCHLIFFE 29 * T CAULDWELL 27	THE BELFRY	117
20 SEP	C B C OXFORD C BRADLEY 25 * K DOWRIE 27 * M STEVENSON 28 * C HOOD 27	WESTERWOOD	107
21 SEP	VCM COMMUNICATIONS M GOODCHILD 38 R SMALL 41 D WRIGHTWICK 43 G MEINCOLL 38	SINGING HILLS	160
22 SEP	NISSAN MOTOR (GB) LTD S MIHARA 35 D MORAN 35 A LOW 34 A WEST 35	MILLRIDE	139
23 SEP	DU PONT (UK) LTD I FRENCH 26 * J GREENFIELD 37 * R BALL 36 * A RULHAN 35	THE WARWICKSHIRE	134
23 SEP	SCHENCK LTD J EATON 31 J NORMAN 28 * B MERCER 28 * P KEELEY 28	WOBURN	115
24 SEP	JAMES MARTIN & CO S IZATT 31 * P STEPHENSON 44 * M MARTIN 43 * G FAIRLY 40	RAC COUNTRY CLUB	158
24 SEP	NEXT PLC R JONES 48 C ANGELIDES 39 M ROBSON 39 G MAXWELL 38	CROCKETTS MANOR	156
24 SEP	LACE MAWER M REECE 38 * J REYNARD 38 * A MCNEE 37 * R SPENCE 37	THE WILMSLOW	150
24 SEP	DELOITTE & TOUCHE A DEARDEN 35 R BULSIN 36 * A GODDARD 38 * K DISS 37	THE GOG MAGOG	146
24 SEP	WT PARTNERSHIP S TANT 31 M LEE 39 F TALL 37 S ARMSTRONG 37	SELSDON PARK	144
24 SEP	NEWMANS OF CANTERBURY BMW M NEWMAN 32 M JONES 39 J HIRST 36 R COOMBE 34	BROOME PARK	141
24 SEP	DANIEL THWAITES PLC H NICHOLSON 48 L HALLERON 31 M MALONEY 29 I HACKING 28	WHITEFIELD	128
25 SEP	CHARLES RUSSELL R PIERCE 37 * J HENDERSON 43 * R SEWELL 42 * A FURSMAN 38	TEMPLE	168
25 SEP	INCE & CO R SAYER 41 P ROBAN 38 * P HALPENNY 38 * T PROCTOR 36	ROYAL ST GEORGES	153
25 SEP	DWELLCOURT LTD T HILLIARD 35 T MANCINI 37 M BOSHER 38 J LEE 41	KINGSWOOD	151
25 SEP	HAMMOND SUDDARDS T RUSSELL 35 * K SNETHELLS 38 * D STONE 38 * P BANCROFT 38	MOORTOWN	149
25 SEP	NATIONWIDE BUILDING SOCIETY G HOULIHAN 36 B MORRELL 35 P MCLAUGHLIN 35 A DALES 33	NORTHAMPTONSHIRE COUNTY	139
25 SEP	ALISON ASSOCIATES P GRIDWELL 32 B KENWORTHY 28 * R PARKER 36 * S MATHIS 29	THE BELFRY	125
26 SEP	INTECH PROMOTIONS LTD T BLEASE 32 * M JONES 31 * S INGRAM 29 * S BILLINGTON 29	FOREST OF ARDEN	111

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FISHING: TRADITIONAL METHOD OF DAPPING GIVEN NEW LEASE OF LIFE BY LATE HATCH

Trout season promises daddy of all finishes

Brian Clarke finds an autumn bonus that has compensated for the dreadful start to the fly fisherman's year

One of the heaviest hatches of daddy-long-legs on record is enabling a trout season which began poorly to go out with a bang. Fly fisherman with the wit and flexibility to take advantage of it over the next couple of weeks could have their best sport since the high jinks of the mayfly.

The stilted, gangling, feeble-flying daddy is a terrestrial creature that has a liking for low-lying meadows bordering rivers and many lakes. Once airborne, it is at the mercy of every whim of the wind. Once on the water, it is doomed. Some flies sink into the surface and drown at once. Others are blown over the water like smudges of tumbleweed.

Even in an ordinary year, it never rakes many daddies to excite the trout. Over the past couple of weeks, huge hatches have been reported all over the country, with river as well as lake anglers sharing the spoils. The prospect, especially on windy days without rain, is for more of the same.

The essentials for anyone hoping to make up for the cold, early weeks that held the season back are alertness to what is happening around them, an appropriate artificial ready for use and the knowledge of how and where to fish it.

All trout are looking for food now that winter is on the way and, if other flies are on the surface in numbers — especially on rivers — the fish will be up and feeding. In the main, the disturbances that these fish make will be small and controlled. Among them, fish taking the daddy can be identified easily. Typically, they will be rising with heavy swirls and splashes — the former to flies trapped in the surface, the latter to flies being blown along.

'Anglers have shared the spoils, and the prospect is for more of the same'

On lakes, even when no rises can be seen, artificial daddies are worth fishing "blind": the fish have now become so heavily attuned to the natural that they are coming up to take out of the blue.

Artificial daddies can be found in the better tackle shops. Anglers capable of tying their own can make a passable imitation simply. A bunch of brown pheasant tail fibres wound along the shank of a size ten or eight hook will suggest the body and a few individual pheasant tail fibres, each knotted in the middle, will suggest the insect's legs. A brown cock hackle wound in behind the eye will aid flotation and complete the job.

On rivers, the daddy should be fished in the conventional, upstream, dry-fly way. On lakes, three tactics have been proving productive. First, the fly can be fished as a typical dry fly close to the bank from which the wind is blowing. This is the bank from which natural flies will be delivered to the water and the bank along which expectant trout will be lying.

A second effective method, especially on small stillwaters over the next couple of weeks, is to fish the fly sunk, suggesting a natural daddy that has drowned. This year, a number of weighted patterns exist that suggest a drowned daddy, but, in my experience, an unweighted fly left to drift loosely under the ripple is more effective. Takes to the drowned, free-drifting fly can be positive. The line often simply locks tight.

The third tactic, one little seen in recent years but now making a comeback, is to dap the fly on the surface from the end of a light, wind-blown line, using a long rod. Dapping is one of the oldest and most exciting forms of angling. A fly is dribbled and drifted naturally over the surface beneath a spinnaker of floss tied in to catch the wind. The fly, now just touching the water, now skidding over it, can tease a big fish from nowhere.

The one essential in dapping is nerves of hardened steel. It is too easy to snatch at a take so violent and so close. The fish has to be given time to turn down. The Victorians had an excellent formula for timing the strike. They advised saying "Rule Britannia" slowly. Similar formulas work just as well today. "In Europe or out?" does the job for me.

TODAY'S FIXTURES

FOOTBALL

Kick-off 7.30 unless stated

Nationwide League

First division

Grimsby v Norwich (7.45) ... Ipswich v Barnsley (7.45) ... Oldham v West Bromwich (7.45) ... Portsmouth v Crystal Palace (7.45) Southend v Sheffield Utd (7.45) ... Tranmere v Oxford Utd (7.45) ...

Second division

Bournemouth v Walsall (7.45) ... Bristol City v Brentford (7.45) ... Bury v Burnley (7.45) ... Chesterfield v Shrewsbury (7.45) ... Crewe v Blackpool ... Gillingham v Notts County (7.45) ... Plymouth v Peterborough (7.45) ... Watford v Preston (7.45) ... Wrexham v Luton (7.45) ... P Wycombe v Rotherham (7.45) ... York v Bristol Rovers ...

Third division

Barnet v Scarborough (7.45) ... Brighton v Lincoln (7.45) ... Cambridge Utd v Darlington (7.45) ... Cardiff v Rochdale ... P Carlisle v Colchester (7.45) ... Chester v Northampton ... Doncaster v Hartlepool ... Fulham v Torquay (7.45) ... Hereford v Scunthorpe ... Hull v Mansfield ... Leyton Orient v Swansea (7.45) ... Wigan v Exeter (7.45) ...

Vauxhall Conference

Altrincham v Stalybridge (7.45) ... Dover v Bath (7.45) ... Macclesfield v Halifax (7.45) ... Slough v Woking (7.45) ... Southport v Gateshead (7.45) ... Telford v Bromsgrove (7.45) ...

LEAGUE OF WALES: Flint Town v Caernarfon.

WILKINSON SWORD LEAGUE CUP: Quarter-final: Carrick v Linfield, Distillery v Portadown; Glentoran v Coleraine, Crusaders v Omagh.

ICIS LEAGUE: First division: Abingdon Town v Wokingham, Worthing v Uxbridge. Second division: Bracknell v Bedford T; Chalfont St Peter v Windsor and Eton, Chesham v Leatherhead. Edgware v Leighton, Egham v Tilbury, Hemel Hempstead v Collier Row and Romford; Hungerford v Horsham, Ware v Witham. Third division: Kingsbury v Tring.

UNIBOND LEAGUE: Premier division: Gainsborough v Spennymoor; Leek v Boston, Witton v Marine. Cup: First round: Curzon Ashton v Atherton LR, Frickley v Farsley Celtic; Great Harwood v Workington; Harrogate Town v Stocksbridge PS, Lancaster v Netherfield, Lincoln United v Alfreton, Matlock Town v Buxton; Whitley Bay v Gretna.

PONTINS CENTRAL LEAGUE: Premier division (7.0): Derby v Sheffield Wednesday; Everton v Liverpool.

SCREWFIX DIRECT LEAGUE: Premier division: Barnstaple v Elmore; Odd Down v Chippenham, Paulton R v Tiverton.

MINERVA SOUTH MIDLANDS LEAGUE: Premier division: Harpenden v Milton Keynes.

NORTH WEST COUNTIES LEAGUE: First division: Atherton Collieries v Clitheroe, Blackpool Rovers v Holker Old Boys, Eastwood H v Vauxhall G M; Maine Road v Salford, Nantwich v Mossley.

JEWSON EASTERN COUNTIES LEAGUE: Premier division: Gorleston v Clacton; Hadleigh U v Diss.

JEWSON WESSEX LEAGUE: First division: Andover v Wimborne Town; Ryde Sports v Portsmouth.

UHLSPORT UNITED COUNTIES LEAGUE: Premier division: Eynesbury v Mirlees Blackstone, Holbeach v Spalding; Newport Pagnell v Long Buckby; Stamford v Bourne, S and L Corby v Boston, Stotfold v Cogenhoe; Wellingborough v Kempston. Cup: First round: Potton v Ramsey.

NORTHERN COUNTIES EAST LEAGUE: Premier division: Hatfield Main v Sheffield.

FA CUP: Second qualifying round replays: Ilkeston v Arnold, Bedworth v Hinckley A, Atherstone v Kettering, Bilston v Desborough, Knypersley v Stourbridge, Shepshed D v Solihull Boro, Grantham v Canvey Island; Cambridge City v Wroxham, Chelmsford v Heybridge Swifts; Grays v Hayes, Stansted v Hampton; Yeading v St Albans, Fisher v Hendon, Tonbridge v Molesey.

FA YOUTH CUP: First qualifying round: Hornchurch v Ipswich; Bognor Regis v St Leonards Stamcroft.

SCHOOLS MATCHES: Tyne and Wear League: Under-15: Chester-le-Street v Gateshead, South Tyneside v Sunderland, North Tyneside v West Tyne Under-14: Chester-le-Street v Gateshead, South Tyneside v Sunderland.

RUGBY UNION

Kick-off 7.0 unless stated

Anglo-Welsh Cup

Pool 1B

Llanelli v Bath ...

Welsh League

Second division

Aberavon v Llandovery ... Blackwood v Cardiff Inst ... Maesteg v Bonymaen ... Pontypool v Abertillery ... South Wales Police v Cross Keys ... Ystradgynlais v Abercynon ...

Club match

Cambridge Univ v Cambridge City (7.15) ...

OTHER SPORT

BASKETBALL: European Cup: London Towers v PTT Ankara (8.0)

BOXING: Commonwealth middleweight championship: Robert McCracken (England, holder) v Fitzgerald Bruney (Canada) (Aston Villa Leisure Centre).

GOLF: Women's British Seniors tournament (at Pyle and Kenfig).

ICE HOCKEY: Superleague: Nottingham v Sheffield (7.30)

TENNIS: LTA satellite tournament (in Nottingham).

Tracey Capstick on an emotional parting from her sailor husband

Navigating tears for a love of the cruel sea

On Sunday, after years of preparation, weeks of violent mood swings and days of fighting back the tears, I said goodbye to my husband, Jim, as he left Southampton aboard the yacht, *Ocean Rover*, to take part in the BT Global Challenge.

Needless to say, it was an emotionally-charged moment. I was not alone. There were many of us, both volunteers and their friends and family, experiencing the same agonising moment. I should like to say it was a joyous occasion, but for the most part it was not.

The weather proved appropriate — dark, windy and raining. I stood above the yacht and observed the behaviour of the participants in this bizarre ritual of farewells.

There were two noticeable camps of people. First, the skippers, the professionals who were confident, enthusiastic and impressive while the sponsors were businesslike and dutiful. Second, the amateurs — the crews and their supporters. Many of the crews were subdued, avoiding close interaction with each other and only occasionally managing to acknowledge the presence of their nearest and dearest. Some were animated, all were apprehensive. My husband hid at the far side of the yacht. I was not surprised. He was going riddled with guilt at leaving two children, of ten and seven, and a wife who is eight months pregnant. We did not discuss it, but I knew it was there. Partners, parents, children and friends — tearful, frightened. In my particular case, constantly fighting the urge to scream out: "Please don't do this, we need you here."

Chay Blyth, the race director, attended each yacht and shook the skipper by the hand. He and I were feet apart, but might have been on separate planets. His perception and mine of what was happening that morning could not have been more diverse. Over the past few weeks, I have grown to despise him and the round-the-world race that is his brainchild.

A sure trigger for anger has been the race logo. Recently, it is everywhere I turn. It triggers a train of thoughts which culminate in my less-than-favourable personal view of Blyth. He may well have disguised a clever business venture as a rare opportunity for achievement by ordinary people, but I doubt that he has any real notion of the personal cost to many more.



'It occurred to me his action was selfish and arrogant'

I stood alone amid the relatives of the *Ocean Rover* crew. I had left the children at home, a decision that we had jointly agonised over for some days. As the yachts left the marina in turn, the crowd obliged with a cheer and a wave. As *Ocean Rover* disappeared out of sight, our brave faces disappeared and we hugged each other sobbing, united in indescribable pain and grief.

In the light of so much anguish, I was overcome with anger. The *Ocean Rover* crew had left behind dependants who love them dearly and who rely on them either financially, or emotionally, or both. It occured to me that the action of these brave volunteers, including that of my husband, was selfish and arrogant. They had chosen to place themselves in danger to satisfy their own needs over the interests of those they purport to love and each of them will return and assume that they will still be cherished ten months later by those left behind. I am sure there are many commendable reasons why families are torn apart. I am not convinced of the validity of this one.

PETER THIEVNOR



Tracey Capstick is bitter over the disruption caused to her family by the BT Global Challenge

At 9am I left to drive the 50 miles home to our children. We were due to attend a beach party at Stokes Bay, but it was cancelled because of the fierce winds and rain. Already Jim was in a Force 9 gale. As I got closer to home, panic set in. I was under considerable pressure to pull myself together before I reached the children.

Both Jim and I had gone to some lengths to present their father's journey in a positive light. Now it was my responsibility to follow it through and I did not want to blow it at the last hurdle. I rehearsed a speech to get them through the day and ensure that it did not unfold into a great emotional drama. Consequently it did not, and we did OK.

My husband is proud to say I am a supportive wife and, despite all of the above, most of the time I am. I have always believed that Jim must live his own life. At the outset, he asked if he could participate in the Challenge and I consented. I know of many partners who have neither consented nor been asked.

Ironically, it is my fault that Jim is a volunteer. I suggested the original format of his winning entry in *The Times* competition. I edited it and it was me who drove a round trip of 150 miles to meet the deadline. Then, when he took part in the final selection weekend, it was I who spent hours briefing him on how to behave and what qualities the organisers would look for. I do not know if I would do the same again. My advice to anyone contemplating the next one is — do not underestimate the pain.

TOMORROW

Far from home — life aboard Ocean Rover

RADIO CHOICE

For failure, say gottle

Woodentops. *Radio 2, 9.00pm.*

As always, the Greeks had a word for it. So did the Romans. In both cases, "bellyspeak" came into it. Romans and Greeks were wrong. Ventriloquism involves only the glottis and the tongue, and for those who have not mastered the closed-lips technique, "bottle of beer" comes out as "gottle of geer". Ray Alan's history of ventriloquism is the story of men — and a few women — who have made their living by talking to themselves in public. The monocled toff, Lord Charles, by talking to themselves in public. The monocled toff, Lord Charles, slurring his words like a toper, shares the linking with his flesh-and-blood manipulator, Alan. This was a wise choice; they make up a well-above-average double-act. It is paradoxical that ventriloquism, a visual art if ever there was one, owes its resurgence to radio, which draws its strength from sound.

Reputations: Nikolaus Pevsner. *Radio 3, 9.30pm.*

It is right and proper that the recorded voice and architectural judgments of Nikolaus Pevsner should be part of the 50th birthday celebrations of the Third Programme. His broadcasts were many and significant. He was an authority on the Englishness of English art — strange for a refugee from Germany. He achieved fame with his *Buildings of England* and *Pioneers of the Modern Movement*. Joe Mordaunt Cook's reappraisal of Pevsner's reputation is enriched by the contributions of eminent contemporary commentators, including Gavin Stamp and John Harris.

Peter Davall

RADIO 1

FM Stereo. 6.30am Chris Evans **9.00** Simon Mayo **12.00** Charlie Jordan, Incl at 12.30pm-12.45 Newsbeat **2.00** Nicky Campbell **4.00** Mark Goodier **7.00** Evening Session **9.00** Cling Film **10.00** Mark Radcliffe **12.00** Claire Sturgess **4.00am** Clive Warren

RADIO 2

FM Stereo. 6.00am Sarah Kennedy **7.30** Wake Up to Wogan **9.30** Ken Bruce **11.30** Alex Lester **1.30pm** Debbie Thrower **3.00** Ed Stewart **5.05** John Dunn **7.00** *Hayes Over Britain* **8.30** The Elephant Man (5/5) **9.00** Woodentops. See Choice **10.00** The Sexton's Tales. A new series in which George Cole stars as the sexton of Highgate Cemetery (1/5) **10.30** The Jamesons **12.05am** Charles Nove **3.00** Steve Madden

RADIO 5 LIVE

5.00am Morning Reports, incl **5.45** Wake Up to Money **6.00** The Breakfast Programme incl at **6.55, 7.55** racing preview **8.35** The Magazine, with Brian Hayes, incl **10.35** News from Europe **12.00** Midday with Mair, incl **12.35pm** Moneycheck **2.05** Ruscoe on Five, incl racing from Newmarket and at **3.45** Entertainment News **4.00** Nationwide, incl at **5.45** Entertainment News **7.00** News Extra, incl at **7.20** Sports Bulletin **7.35** The Tuesday Match, with Mark Pougatch. Coverage of the first division clash between Ipswich and Barnsley **10.05** News Talk, with Nigel Cassidy **11.00** Night Extra **12.05am** After Hours **2.05** Up All Night, with Rhod Sharp

TALK RADIO

5.00am Early Breakfast **7.00** Paul Ross **9.00** Scott Chisholm **12.00** Anna Raeburn **2.00pm** Tommy Boyd **4.00** Drivetime, with Peter Deeley **7.00** Moz Dee's Sportszone **10.00** James Whale **1.00am** Ian Collins

WORLD SERVICE

All times in **BST.** News on the hour. **5.30am** Europe Today **6.30** Europe Today **7.15** The World Today **7.30** Anything Goes **8.15** Off the Shelf. *Sailing Alone Around the World* **8.30** New Ideas **8.50** Waveguide **9.10** Words of Faith **9.15** Thirty-Minute Drama **9.45** Good Books **10.05** Business **10.15** Brain of Britain **10.45** Sports Roundup **11.30** BBC English **11.45** Off the Shelf. *Sailing Alone Around the World* **12.30pm** Meridian Feature **1.15** Britain Today **1.30** Counterpoint **3.05** Outlook **3.30** Multitrack: Hit List **4.05** Sports Roundup **4.15** *BBC English* **4.30** News in German **5.30** Business **5.45** Britain Today News. **6.10** World Today **6.25** Voicebox. **6.30** News in German **7.30** Counterpoint **9.25** Words of Faith **9.30** Megamix **10.05** Business **10.15** Britain Today **10.30** Meridian Feature **11.30** World Today **11.45** Sport **12.10am** Voicebox **12.15** Pop the Question **12.30** Megamix **1.30** Folk Routes **1.45** Britain Today **2.30** Outlook **2.55** Words of Faith **3.30** Meridian **4.15** Sport **4.30** Europe Today

CLASSIC FM

4.00am Mark Griffiths **6.00** Mike Read **9.00** Henry Kelly **12.00** Susannah Simons **2.00pm** Lunchtime Concerto. Manuel Ponce (Piano Concerto) **3.00** Nick Bailey **6.00** Classic Newsnight, with Jane Markham **6.30** Sonata. Vivaldi (Trio Sonata in D minor) **7.00** The Opera Guide, with Hugh Macpherson **8.00** Evening Concert. Haydn (Symphony No 100 in G, Military); Liszt (Piano Concerto No 2 in A); Walton (Viola Concerto); Kodaly (Hary Janos Suite, Op 15) **10.00** Michael Mappin **1.00am** Mel Cooper

VIRGIN RADIO

6.00am Russ 'n' Jono **9.00** Richard Skinner **12.00** Graham Dene **4.00pm** Nicky Horne **7.00** Paul Coyte (FM) / Robin Banks (AM) **10.00** Mark Forrest **2.00am** Jeremy Clark

RADIO 3

6.00am On Air, with Andrew McGregor. Bach (Concerto in D minor for two violins, BWV1043); Beethoven (String Quartet in A, Op 18 No 5); Sibelius (Valse Triste); Wesley (Violin Concerto No 2 in D); Rossini (Overture, The Silken Ladder); Gould (Latin American Symphonette)

9.00 Morning Collection, with Catriona Young. Wagner (A Faust Overture); Britten (Ode to St Cecilia); Liadov (Kikimora); Mozart (Piano Quartet in G Minor, K478)

10.00 Musical Encounters, with Geraint Lewis. Includes Hoddinott (The Sun, the Great Luminary of the Universe). London Symphony Artist of the Week: David Atherton. Britten (Songs and Proverbs of William Blake); Purcell (O sing unto the lord, Z44)

12.00 Composer of the Week: Steve Reich at 60 with music for mallets, voice and organs

1.00pm News; The BBC Orchestras (Gerhard Centenary). The BBC Symphony under its guest and principal conductors, Matthias Bamert and Andrew Davis

2.00 Father Antonio Soler. Concerto in A for two organs: Tina Mathot and Ton Koopman

3.25 The BBC Orchestras. The BBC National Orchestra of Wales under Tadaaki Otaka and Paul Watkins, cello. Brahms (Variations on a Theme by Haydn); Tchaikovsky (Rococo Variations, original version); Brahms (Symphony No 1 in C minor)

5.00 Music Machine. Composer Robert Saxton talks about his piece *At The Round Earth's Imagined Corners* performed by the BBC Singers

5.15 In Tune, with Brian Morton. Includes Rameau (Les Paladins, excerpts); Gustav Leonhardt (Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment); Bach (Prelude and Fugue in E flat, BWV852)

7.30 Pebble Mill. Beethoven (Piano Trio in E flat, Op 1 No 1); Mendelssohn (Piano Trio in D minor, Op 49 No 1) **8.15** The Practice of Reading with Denis Donoghue followed by concert part 2

9.30 Reputations: Nikolaus Pevsner. See Choice

9.55 The BBC Orchestras. The Scottish Symphony Orchestra under Martyn Brabbins. Vasks (Musica dolorosa); Liszt (Piano Concerto No 1 in E gla); Brahms (Tragic Overture)

10.45 Night Waves. Richard Coles explores the nature and function of anxieties with a new collection of essays on the millennium edited by Sarah Dunant and Roy Porter. Plus a judgment and prediction about this year's Booker Prize

11.30 Composers of the Week: The Court of James VI, with Tom Fleming reading poetry (r)

12.00 The Road to Toledo 2. A Dance through France (r)

12.30am Jazz Notes, with Gordon Cruickshank from the Glasgow International Jazz Festival

1.00 Through the Night, with Donald Macleod

RADIO 4

5.55am Shipping Forecast (LW only) **6.00** News Briefing incl Weather **6.10** Farming Today **6.30** Prayer for the Day **6.30** Today incl **7.25, 8.25** Sports News **7.45** Thought for the Day **6.40** A Moment's Liberty (2/5) **8.58** Weather

9.00 News 9.05 Call Nick Ross 0171-580 4444

10.00 News; Fritz Spiegl's Suburb (FM). The writer and musician Fritz Spiegl takes a turn around Toxteth, Liverpool

10.00 Daily Service (LW)

10.15 On This Day (LW)

10.30 Woman's Hour

11.30 All in the Mind. Are citizens' juries an appropriate forum for discussing mental health policies? Presented by Professor Anthony Clare

12.00 News; You and Yours, with Lesley Riddoch

12.25pm Hoad A new series of the story-telling game. With Tim Brooke-Taylor, Roy Cooney, Graeme Garden and Adrian Walsh **12.55** Weather

1.00 The World at One. With Charlie Lee-Potter at the Labour Party Conference in Blackpool and Chris Lowe in London

1.40 The Archers (r) **1.55** Shipping Forecast

2.00 News; Books and Company with John Walsh (r)

2.30 Comparing Notes with Brian Kay. In the first of a new series, Brian Kay talks to the tenor Ian Partridge and his pianist sister, Jennifer

3.00 The Afternoon Shift

4.00 News 4.05 Kaleidoscope. Paul Vaughan talks to the Booker Prize judges as the shortlist of candidates is announced

4.45 Short Story: Love and Death in Languedoc. A selection of French tales written and read by Christopher Hope (2/5)

5.00 PM 5.50 Shipping Forecast **5.55** Weather

6.00 Six O'Clock News

6.30 England's Glory. A comedy by Janey Preger. With Keith Barron, Lynda Baron and Jane Dolamore (4/6) (r)

7.00 News 7.05 The Archers

7.20 File on 4

8.00 Science Now. Peter Evans presents a programme as part of National Astronomy Week (r)

8.20 The Network. Alun Lewis presents a series about the information revolution

9.00 In Touch. Peter White with news, views and information for visually impaired people

9.30 Kaleidoscope (r) **9.59** Weather

10.00 The World Tonight. With Jeremy Harris in London and Robin Lustig at the Labour Conference in Blackpool

10.45 Book at Bedtime: The Great Gatsby. Sam Robards reads F. Scott Fitzgerald's classic, abridged by Neville Teller (7/10)

11.00 Mediumwave (r)

11.30 On the Ropes. John Humphrys asks the former prisons boss, Derek Lewis, how he coped when the Home Secretary sacked him (3/4) (r)

12.00 News incl **12.27am** approx Weather

12.30 The Late Book: Nico — Songs They Never Play on the Radio (2/8) **12.48** Shipping Forecast **1.00 As World Service**

FREQUENCY GUIDE. RADIO 1. FM 97.6-99.8. **RADIO 2.** FM 88.0-90.2. **RADIO 3.** FM 90.2-92.4. **RADIO 4.** FM 92.4-94.6; LW 198; MW 720. **RADIO 5 LIVE.** MW 693, 909. **WORLD SERVICE.** MW 648; LW 198 (12.45-5.55am). **CLASSIC FM.** FM 100-102. **VIRGIN RADIO.** FM 105.8; MW 1197, 1215. **TALK RADIO UK.** MW 1053, 1089. **Television and radio listings compiled by Peter Dear, Ian Hughes, Rosemary Smith, Susan Thomson, Jane Gregory and John McNamara.**

BOXING

McCracken has title task

ROBERT McCRACKEN will step into a boxing ring at Aston Villa Leisure Centre tonight, but he would much rather be somewhere else (Srikumar Sen writes).

He must defend his Commonwealth middleweight championship against Fitzgerald Bruney, of Canada, who is the last man that McCracken wants to meet — not because McCracken is afraid of him, but because Bruney is the most frustrating of opponents.

This is their second meeting. In their bout last November, at Dudley, Bruney proved to be so awkward to hit that McCracken did not impress many ringsiders. Roy Francis, the referee, gave the bout to McCracken by a clear margin of eight rounds to three, but so strong was the opinion of others that Bruney had won by a similar margin that the Commonwealth committee had to order a rematch.

It is unfortunate that, just as McCracken is on the point of signing for a title bout with Lonnie Bradley, the World Boxing Organisation champion, he has to take on such a slippery opponent. Indeed, according to McCracken: "He's not just awkward, he's horrible. He's tall, a southpaw and he hasn't a clue. He panics whenever you come near him. I don't take any pleasure out of fighting the guy. I just want it over with."

With luck, McCracken could find Bruney less resilient this time. Whereas McCracken has had two bouts since meeting Bruney and won them both well to take his record to 17 wins without a loss, Bruney has boxed just once, losing to Greg Wright, of Detroit. It was his fifth defeat in six outings.

EQUESTRIANISM

Billington earns late reward for Olympic achievements

BY JENNY MACARTHUR

GEOFF BILLINGTON, who was sixth in the Olympic showjumping competition and the best British equestrian performer in Atlanta, was named *Horse and Hound* personality of the year at the Animal Health Trust's United Kingdom equestrian awards in London yesterday.

The awards, which were presented by the Princess Royal, the president of the Animal Health Trust, were started seven years ago "to recognise outstanding scientific, sporting and welfare achievements in the equine world".

Billington, a jovial, wise-cracking Lancastrian who was making his British team debut in Atlanta — at the age of 41 — had considered himself to be the weak link in the team. "I just hoped I wouldn't let the others down," he said, referring to his three more experienced team members, Nick Skelton and the brothers John and Michael Whitaker.

He produced two superb rounds in the individual contest on Gerard Lever's ten-year-old It's Otto, which qualified him for the six-horse jump-off for silver and bronze medals. The Dutch-bred horse, the winner of the Duphar top horse award yesterday, looked set for a clear round against the clock but one mistake at a gate kept him in sixth place.

"He's a superstar — I'm just lucky that late in life I have found myself with one of the best horses in the world," Billington said after receiving his award. He will be partnering It's Otto at the Bremen International Show in Germany this weekend.

Walter Swinburn, the jockey who made a victorious return to the saddle at Windsor in August after a six-month struggle to recover from horrific injuries that he received in a fall in Hong Kong, received the Duvaxyn sporting award.

Swinburn, who was visibly shaken after watching a re-run of his accident on giant screens in the banqueting hall of the Hilton Hotel yesterday, dedicated his award to his family, "without whom," he said, "I would not be here today".

The loudest cheers of the day were reserved for Britain's Paralympic equestrian team, who were given the Animal Health Trust special award for their outstanding performance in Atlanta where, led by Jo Jackson, they won three gold medals, three silver and two bronze.

Their arrival on the podium was greeted by a standing ovation from the 700 guests.



Billington: jovial

AWARDS. Duvaxyn sporting award: Walter Swinburn. Horse and Hound equestrian personality of the year: Geoff Billington. Duphar top horse award: It's Otto. Animal Health Trust voluntary service award: Rosemary Barlow. Animal Health Trust outstanding scientific achievement award: Professor Barne Edwards. Animal Health Trust special award: British Paralympic equestrian team.

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POOLS FORECAST

Saturday October 5

Coupon No, fixture, forecast

FIRST DIVISION

1 Bradford v Southend X
2 Charlton v Barnsley X
3 Grimsby v QPR 2
4 Ipswich v Swindon X
5 Oldham v Port Vale 1
6 Wolves v Reading 1

SECOND DIVISION

7 Brentford v Rotherham 1
8 * Bristol R v Crewe V
9 Burnley v Stockport 2
10 Bury v Blackpool 2
11 Chest'f'd v Bristol C 2
12 Gill'gham v Bourn'm'th 1
13 Luton v Walsall 1
14 Plymouth v Millwall X
15 Preston v Peterboro 1
16 Wycombe v Notts Co 1
17 York v Watford X

THIRD DIVISION

18 Barnet v Torquay 1
19 Camb'ge v Hartlepool 1
20 Carlisle v Mansfield 1
21 Chester v Cardiff X
22 Darlington v Rochdale 1
23 Doncaster v Leyton O 2
24 Hereford v Scarboro 2
25 Hull v Scunthorpe 1
26 Lincoln v Exeter 1
27 North'pton v Fulham 2
28 Wigan v Brighton 1

VAUXHALL CONFERENCE

29 Hednesf'd v Farnboro 1
30 Northwich v Dover X
31 Rushden v Welling 1
32 Slough v Morecambe 1
33 Stalybridge v Kettering 2
34 Stevenage v Southport 1
35 Woking v Macclesf'ld X

SCOTTISH FIRST

36 Airdrie v St Mirren 1
37 Dundee v Clydebank 1
38 E Fife v Falkirk 2
39 G Morton v Partick 1

SCOTTISH SECOND

40 Brechin v Berwick X
41 Dumbarton v Ayr 2
42 Livingston v Clyde 1
43 Stenh'muir v Hamilton 2
44 Stranraer v Q of South 1

SCOTTISH THIRD

45 Albion v Montrose X
46 E Stirling v Ross 1
47 Forfar v Cowdenb'th 2
48 Inverness v Arbroath 1
49 Queens Pk v Alloa 2

* denotes void match

DRAWS (home teams): Bradford City, Charlton Athletic, Ipswich Town, Plymouth Argyle, York City, Chester City, Northwich Victoria, Woking, Brechin City, Albion Rovers.

BEST DRAWS: Charlton, Ipswich, York, Northwich, Woking

AWAYS: Blackpool, Bristol City, Scarborough, Kettering, Falkirk

HOMES: Brentford, Gillingham, Preston North End, Wycombe Wanderers, Carlisle United, Hull City, Lincoln City, Slough, Airdrieonians, Livingston

FIXED ODDS: Homes: Gillingham, Preston, Wycombe, Hull, Lincoln Aways: Blackpool, Bristol City, Kettering. Draws: Charlton, Ipswich, York.

☐ Vince Wright

WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page 46

ONERABLE

(c) Nothing to do with "honourable". Instead, it is a variant of *onerous*, viz. tiresome, burdensome or tedious. From the Latin *onus* a burden. "I see you have invited the Brigadier. He's an onerable old stick, isn't he?"

UTRAQUIST

(a) One who partakes of the wine as well as the bread at communion. "So that settles what you all want for starters and main course. Now, what shall we have to drink. Any utraquists among us? No? Splendid! Well, we won't be needing the wine list, waiter — just a carafe of your house water, please."

DECOLLATION

(c) Decapitation, beheading, from the Latin for taking off the neck. "And finally, governors, parents, boys and girls, I cannot bring my remarks to an end without a special mention of the Deputy Head. We all know exactly how much he has contributed to the school over the years and what he means to us all. I know that you will all agree with me that, for everything he has done, for being the man he is, he deserves a thoroughgoing decollation."

UXORILOCAL

(b) Living with one's wife's family. From the Latin *uxor* a wife + *locus* a place. A suitable blessing for brides would be: "May your husband be ever *uxorious* (wife-loving) and never *uxorilocal*."

SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE

1. Qh8+! Kxh8; 2. g7+ Kg8; 3. Bh7+ Kxh7; 4. g8Q mate.

هكذا في الأصل

Woman as wolf, not as strange as it sounds

REVIEW



Lynne Truss

The revelation of the fatal secret is a device well known to dramatists through the ages. You might say that, what with Oedipus, it is the mummy of them all. Ibsen made a decent living out of it; and not too long ago Woody Allen wrote that sketch (*Lovborg's Women Considered*) about a man whose family finally tell him the terrible truth observable to everyone but himself. "I am going to tell you something now that only I and your mother know," says Netta. "You are a dwarf." "*What?*" "Everything in the house has been made to scale. You are only 48 inches tall!"

The terrible secret of that poor wolf-woman in **Wilderness** last night (ITV) brought such thoughts to mind, but also the hilarious progress of Phil Mitchell's alcoholism in *EastEnders* (BBC1), in which the terrible truth (oh no) finally dawned on Kathy last night. In the past months, Phil has become a pink-faced lush of almost comic proportions, yet his friends and relations have furrowed their brows looking for an explanation of his behaviour. "What's going on?" they ask, their eyes swivelling. "What's going on?" Meanwhile the bats fluttering around the head of teenage Joe similarly signal dementia only to those with eyes to see. "Cup of tea, Joe?" people ask. "Tea is the drink of the devil, and it'll get you but it *won't* get me," replies Joe, wagging a finger, madly, and turning lightly on his heel. At which they shrug and say, "OK son, coffee it is!"

The plight of the poor wolf-lady in *Wilderness* (ITV) is similar. While no other character in this new three-part drama is likely to believe that she turns into a wolf once a month, the viewer takes the information on board with surprising ease. Woman-wolf; wolf-woman? No problem with that; and it helps that Ben Bolt directs this potential rug-chewer with plucky seriousness. Amanda Ooms (academic librarian at London University with innocent name, Alice White) is very beautiful and mysterious, and does a lot of acting with her eyes; but the main thing is that fox-like men sniff around her and she rips their throats out. Fortuitously, she has now hooked up with an animal behaviour specialist (Owen Teale), so the future holds promise. It's just a shame it's a monthly wolf, because it's always a monthly wolf. Someone who turned into a squirrel once a fortnight would be real headline news.

Channel 4's **Cutting Edge** last night was *The Test*, and for a while it threatened to be rather dull — certainly by comparison with the flying fur on the other channel. Two hopeful learner drivers; two hopeful trainee examiners — all filmed inside their cars, their fear of failure so self-evident that you didn't need to be a wolf-lady to smell it. But such high emotion in such a banal context made the film charming. "Next road on the right please," the examiners practised saying, in mirrors. It's surprising how many ways you can say the words, "Would you read and sign this insurance declaration?" and still sound unconvincing.

Unbilled star of the show was, of course, a hopeless woman driver who had taken a driving test 40 times in 20 years. Mrs Howard was a short, irrepressible Jewish woman whose seatbelt sawed her neck, and whose driving instructor (Mr Victor) had sat beside her for 20 years with his head growing old in his hand. With Mrs Howard at the wheel, he looked frail and pained, like someone with toothache all over his body. She stalled whenever she reversed. "You won't set the gas!" he told her, for the umpteenth time. They bickered like an old-time music-hall act. "Did you drink something before coming out Victor?" "Yeah." "What?" "Arsenic."

Who would fail the test, ultimately? Only Mrs Howard, of course. Her teenage son tested her on the Highway Code. "Where can you overtake?" he asked, gently. "What do you mean?" she snapped. "That's a very awkward question! I hope they won't ask me such a question!" It was hilarious. In the event, her examiner failed her on the emergency stop — a highly alarming squeal of tyres. But when he started to explain, she told him to shut up. She removed her glasses and wiped her eyes on her jumper. "It's not fair," she complained after, "he didn't give me a second chance."

Normally I would complain at the way a person had been ill-treated by television, but since I've made no dent in that particular brick wall and my head hurts, it may be time to give in. Besides, as one of those people who talks but never listens, Mrs Howard may have been warned a hundred times about the dangers of appearing in this programme. I liked the way the first-time examiner gave her another test-application form at the end, incidentally. He pretended everything was absolutely normal, but all the way through the test, he must have wondered: is this really for a Channel 4 documentary, or is it an elaborate set-up for Jeremy Beadle?

Back at *EastEnders* (if I may) I would like to share an observation. "You still here?" said Ian last night, to which Cindy replied, "Where else would I be?" The habit of answering questions with questions has a fine tradition in *EastEnders* (it automatically ups the ante) but last night saw one of the longest exchanges I have ever heard. "How long are you gonna keep this up, Ian?" "What?" "When are we going to get things back to the way they were?" "How can we?" "So I've come back to you for what? For you to punish me?" When they do this on *Whose Line Is It Anyway?* they falter and giggle long before they get that far.

● *Matthew Bond is away*

BBC1

6.00am Business Breakfast (28642)
7.00 BBC Breakfast News (Ceefax) (59913)
9.00 Breakfast News Extra (Ceefax) (5879536)
9.20 Style Challenge (s) (2764371) **9.45 Kilroy** (s) (2594352) **10.30 Can't Cook, Won't Cook** (s) (81915)
11.00 News and weather (6178371)
11.05 Conference Live. Live coverage of the Labour Party conference from Blackpool. Featuring Tony Blair's address. Includes news at **12.00** (93627826)
1.00pm News and weather (29772) **1.30 Regional News** (57620975)
1.40 Neighbours (*Ceefax*) (s) (44687197) **2.00 Call My Bluff** (s) (6410517) **2.35 Turnabout** (s) (8174438) **3.00 The Terrace** (s) (8371) **3.30 Brum** (r) (s) (93823159)
3.40 Romuald the Reindeer (s) (93043468) **3.50 The All New Popeye Show** (Ceefax) (s) (44687197) **4.10 Oscar's Orchestra** (Ceefax) (s) (6410517) **4.35 The Queen's Nose** (r) (Ceefax) (s) (8174438) **5.00 Newsround** (Ceefax) (7378030) **5.10 Byker Grove** (Ceefax) (s) (290764)
5.35 Neighbours (r) (Ceefax) (s) (409468)
6.00 News and weather (Ceefax) (10)
6.30 Regional news (62)
7.00 Holiday. Jill Dando checks out an all-inclusive holiday to Cyprus; Kevin Woodford tries a cruise-and-stay deal that takes in Orlando and a trip to the Bahamas; Sarkha Guha stays in a chambre-d'hôte in France. Plus: Diana Madill goes for a weekend stay at the home of Lord and Lady Mountbatten (Ceefax) (s) (4492)
7.30 EastEnders. Cindy, feeling like a prisoner, appeals to David to provide an escape route. (Ceefax) (s) (48)
8.00 999 Lifesavers. Michael Buerk and Juliet Morris with a series of extraordinary true stories of bravery (Ceefax) (s) (6772)
8.30 NEW A Question of Sport. David Coleman poses the questions, with former world snooker champion John Parrott and Rangers and Scotland striker Ally McCoist as the new captains. The guests are Michelle Smith, Dean Saunders, Colin Jackson and Martin Offiah (Ceefax) (s) (5807)
9.00 Nine O'Clock News, Regional News and weather (Ceefax) (8246)
9.30 After the Break. Patrick Kielty presents a compilation of adverts from around the world (Ceefax) (s) (35623)
10.00 Crimewatch UK, with Nick Ross and Jill Dando (Ceefax) (s) (864791)
10.45 FILM: Dad (1989) Emotional drama as a successful Wall Street businessman is forced to look after his father when his mother is taken ill. As the two men grow closer the son reassesses his relationship with his own son. Sweet but not sickly. Jack Lemmon, Ted Danson and Olympia Dukakis. Directed by Gary David Goldberg (*Ceefax*) (s) ***Continued at 11.50pm*** (757062)
11.40 Crimewatch UK Update (*Ceefax*) (819371)
11.50 Dad continued and concluded (632739)
12.55am-1.00 Weather (9513111)

VideoPlus+ and the Video PlusCodes
The numbers next to each TV programme listing are Video PlusCode™ numbers, which allow you to programme your video recorder instantly with a VideoPlus+™ handset. Tap in the Video PlusCode for the programme you wish to record. Videoplus+ (™), Pluscode (™) and Video Programmer are trademarks of Gemstar Development Ltd.

BBC2

6.00am Open University: Elements Organised — the Periodic Table (7798420)
6.25 Natural Navigators (7717555)
6.50 The Ocean Floor (9375352)
7.15 See Hear Breakfast News (Ceefax) (6535420) **7.30 Alvin and the Chipmunks** (89772) **7.55 Blue Peter** (r) (Ceefax) (s) (8078178) **8.20 Fireman Sam** (r) (1703284) **8.35 Lassie** (r) (8428352)
9.00 Standard Grade Design (s) (5877178)
9.20 The RE Collection (s) (2762913)
9.45 Watch (s) (132772) **10.00 Playdays** (r) (s) (10536) **10.30 Come Outside** (s) (1251536) **10.45 Science Zone — Types of Material** (s) (3605913) **11.05 Space Ark** (s) (6166536)
11.15 Clementine (9860401) **11.30 GNVQ TV** (s) (3951) **12.00 See Hear! Chat Show Special** (s) (93159) **12.30pm Working Lunch** (13401) **1.00 Teaching Today** (s) (50642) **1.30 Showcase** (s) (57628517)
1.40 Hotch Potch House (r) (s) (14020449)
2.10 Conference Live (s) (431371)
3.55 News and weather (Ceefax) (8611994)
4.00 Today's the Day (s) (75) **4.30 Ready, Steady, Cook** (s) (59) **5.00 The Oprah Winfrey Show** (Ceefax) (9520420) **5.40 A Week to Remember** (b/w) (281159) **5.50 Breast of Friends** (118265)
6.00 Heartbreak High (Teletext) (834517)
6.45 Conference Talk. A round-up of the day's events from Blackpool (s) (972536)
7.30 The Chemistry of (Almost) Everything. Mike Bullivant reveals the complex relationship between bird droppings, drugs, diamonds, dynamite and power (Teletext) (88)
8.00 Pound for Pound. How to save thousands by changing mortgage lender and do private investors score by buying football club shares? (s) (7642)
8.30 Antonio Carluccio's Italian Feast. Antonio meets a Parmesan cheese-maker (s) (3449)



Survivor John Noble (9.00pm)

9.00 NEW Timewatch: Stalin's Foreign Slaves. John Noble returns to Buchenwald, which was used as a transit camp for foreigners on their way to the Gulag (Ceefax) (s) (901975)
9.50 Trade Secrets: Decorators. Professionals share tricks of their trade (Ceefax) (s) (550913)
10.00 Hancock: Competitions, How To Win Money and Influence People (r) (94888)
10.30 Newsnight (Ceefax) (573197)
11.15 Over the Edge (Ceefax) (s) (520888)
11.45 Favourite Films. Clint Eastwood with clips from *The Pale Face*, *The Searchers*, *Unforgiven* and *Yojimbo*, which inspired his own spaghetti-Western début. *A Fistful of Dollars* (r) (Ceefax) (529159)
12.15 National Trust Gardens (r) (7048395)
12.25am The History Man (r) (6862734)
12.30-6.00 The Learning Zone

CHOICE

Timewatch: Stalin's Foreign Slaves
BBC2, 9.00pm

We know that the Soviet Union's forced labour camps made virtual slaves of millions of its citizens. Less well known is that tens of thousands of foreigners were also victims of the gulag. *Timewatch* has tracked down some of the survivors. They provide further evidence, should it be needed, that among the worst perpetrators of 20th-century atrocities Stalin is up there with Hitler and Pol Pot. Former prisoners from Britain, France and the United States recall their arbitrary arrests, long sentences imposed without any pretence of a trial and years spent working themselves to exhaustion in dreadful conditions and on wretched diets. At least they are alive to tell their tales. Prisoners who protested were executed, others allowed to die from cold and hunger.

Witness: School Prayers
Channel 4, 9.00pm

Canon Slade, a Church of England school in Bolton, Greater Manchester, is a victim of its own success. An outstanding academic record, and a reputation for imparting discipline and traditional moral values, has produced many more applicants than places. This has led the school to introduce a points system. To gain enough points to guarantee entry, children and their parents have to prove that they are regular churchgoers. Competition is so fierce that some less than Christian parents are said to cook the figures. Those who fall short of the required total can appeal and the film follows four families through the process. All plead special circumstances to explain their lack of church attendance. In a supposedly secular age, this determination to embrace the C of E may be surprising, not to say gratifying.

The Visit: Claudia's Story
ITV, 10.40pm

Claudia McKibbin has Vater syndrome, a rare crippling illness. She has no gullet, her arms and forearms are deformed and she suffers from stomach complaints. At birth it was touch and go whether she would come through. Doctors thought she should be left to die. Within hours of being born she had undergone two operations and has now had more than 20. But at 13 she is one of the syndrome's oldest survivors. Brave, positive and without a trace of self-pity she makes the ideal subject to round off Desmond Wilcox's tales of courage. At times she sounds almost too good to be true. Head girl, karate green belt, fluent in two languages: the talents seem endless. When she dismisses her disabilities as making her feel special, it almost sounds like a line from a script. But by the end of the film such cynicism is completely disarmed.

Northern Exposure
Channel 4, 11.05pm

The last run of *Northern Exposure* was cut short when Channel 4 discovered more pressing demands on its schedules. But fans who have been waiting since December for the unseen episodes need pine no longer. With the next series following immediately, a 29-week season looms. The adventures of Dr Joel (Rob Morrow), the earnest New Yorker marooned in the Alaskan equivalent of a one-horse town, are not the stuff of big drama but of gently humorous, slightly surreal plotlets which meander good-naturedly towards nowhere. There is no reason why the good doctor should not take the next plane back to the Big Apple. But the point of the show is that, like characters in a Buñuel film, he is invisibly trapped in his surroundings. Do not underestimate the writing. It is deeper and more subtle than it might appear.

Peter Waymark

ITV

6.00am GMTV (7878197)
9.25 Supermarket Sweep (Teletext) (s) (2749062)
9.55 Regional News (6536246)
10.00 The Time . . . the Place (s) (33802)
10.30 This Morning (27846710)
12.20pm Regional News (7713246)
12.30 News and weather (Teletext) (3455888)
12.55 Shortland Street (s) (3463807) **1.25 High Road** (Teletext) (6408284) **2.00 Home and Away** (Teletext) (s) (27064265) **2.25 Quisine** (Teletext) (s) (27043772) **2.50 Vanessa** (Teletext) (s) (9169536)
3.20 News (Teletext) (5768536)
3.25 Regional News (7590489)
3.30 Potamus Park (s) (9919994) **3.40 Wizadora** (s) (6339623) **3.50 Hot Rod Dogs** (s) (9913710) **4.05 Garfield and Friends** (4974772) **4.15 Hey Arnold!** (Teletext) (s) (6318642) **4.40 The Ward** (Teletext) (s) (8533130)
5.10 What's My Line? (8564352)
5.40 News and weather (Teletext) (918791)
6.00 Home and Away (r) (Teletext) (s) (498913)
6.25 HTV News (Teletext) (656826)
7.00 Emmerdale. (Teletext) (S) (5420)
7.30 West Watch. David Bellamy and Nick Baker explore the Somerset Levels (s) (2)
8.00 The Bill. A pensioner dies when confronted by a thief; is it murder or death by natural causes? (1468)



Lesley Vickerage (8.30pm)

8.30 My Good Friend. Ellie (Lesley Vickerage) is persuaded to take a job singing in the local wine bar, and Peter is shocked when he discovers Betty's new hobby. With George Cole (Teletext) (s) (9325)
9.00 Soldier, Soldier. Butcher breaks the ice between him and Stacey when he rescues a para from near death. Cate and Hobbs finally discover that they will soon have not one but two babies (Teletext) (s) (4913)
10.00 News (Teletext) and weather (14642)
10.30 Regional News (781739)
10.40 NEW The Visit: Claudia's Story (Teletext) (s) (766710)
11.40 Highlander (806197)
12.35am Nationwide Football League Extra (6783314)
1.25 FILM: This Man Stands Alone (1979) starring Lou Gossett Jr, Philip Michael Thomas and Clu Gulager. Tense account, based on a true story, about a black civil rights activist running for sheriff in a divided community in the American South (789918)
3.10 Late & Loud (s) (3150376)
4.00 The Chart Show (r) (s) (56289)
5.00 Special Report (r) (80444)
5.30 ITN Morning News (29163)

SCOTTISH

As HTV WEST except:
5.10pm-5.40 Bagdad Cafe (8564352)
6.25-7.00 Wales Tonight (656826)
7.30-8.00 James' Journal (2)

WESTCOUNTRY

As HTV West except:
12.25 All Good Gifts (7721265)
12.55 Emmerdale (3463807)
1.25-1.55 Quisine (65638997)
1.55 Home and Away (14013159)
2.25 Vanessa (27067352)
2.55-3.20 A Country Practice (5235810)
5.10-5.40 Home and Away (8564352)
6.00-7.00 Westcountry Live (25246)
7.30-8.00 Treasures (2)
11.40 Prisoner Cell Block H (806197)

CENTRAL

As HTV West except:
12.55 Home and Away (3463807)
1.25 Quisine (65638997)
1.55 A Country Practice (44851772)
2.20 Vanessa (27068081)
2.50-3.20 Cat Crazy (9169536)
5.10-5.40 Shortland Street (8564352)
6.25-7.00 Central News and Weather (656826)
7.30-8.00 Heart of the Country (2)
12.40am Film: The Life and Times of Judge Roy Bean (87476444)
2.55 Late & Loud (4917734)
3.45 Nationwide Football League Extra (2215192)
4.25 Jobfinder (9765685)
5.20 Asian Eye (5783734)

MERIDIAN

As HTV West except:
12.55 Quisine (3463807)
1.25 Home and Away (65638997)
1.55 Shortland Street (44851772)
2.20 Vanessa (27068081)
2.50-3.20 Hope and Gloria (9169536)
5.10 Home and Away (8564352)
5.37-5.40 Three Minutes — Making It Happen (100246)
6.00 Meridian Tonight (78)
6.30-7.00 What's My Line? (30)
7.30-8.00 Serve You Right Live (2)
10.00 News at Ten; Weather (14642)
11.40 Prisoner Cell Block H (806197)
5.00am Freescreen (80044)

S4C

Starts: 6.35 Adventures in Odyssey (9389555) **7.00 The Big Breakfast** (42623) **9.00 Bless This House** (91791) **9.30 Ysgolion** (391517) **12.00 Little River Journeys** (11555) **12.30pm Backdate** (48197) **1.00 Slot Meithrin** (45710) **1.30 The Big Break** (47488) **2.00 Racing from Newmarket** (74367130) **2.15 Conference Report** (900420) **3.45 Racing from Newmarket** (9929371) **4.00 Fifteen-to-One** (1) **4.30 Little Killers** (5) **5.00 5 Pump** (3826) **5.30 Countdown** (97) **6.00 Newyddion** (364517) **6.05 Heno** (476791) **6.35 Jacpot** (625130) **7.00 Pobol y Cwm** (776623) **7.25 Trio'r Teulu** (934536) **8.00 Stori Fawr** (2710) **8.30 Newyddion** (8517) **9.00 Codi Clawr Hanes** (4284) **9.30 Citizen's Arrest** (28333) **10.00 Brookside** (248739) **10.35 Drop the Dead Donkey** (635505) **11.05 Ellen** (130081) **11.35 Northern Exposure** (807826) **12.30am-1.05 Inside Out** (5623024) **4.00 Schools** (19376)

ELEVEN

6.35am Adventures in Odyssey. Dylan meets the mysterious Whit (r) (9389555)
7.00 The Big Breakfast (42623)
9.00 Bless This House (s) (91791)
9.30 Schools: Eurekal 9.45 Stop Look Listen 10.00 Fourways Farm 10.10 TVM 10.25 How We Used to Live 10.45 Caraidean 11.00 The New Living Body 11.20 Stage One 11.37 Lost Animals 11.42 Poverty Answering Back 11.45 First Edition (391517)
12.00 Little River Journeys (7/7) (Teletext) (11555) **12.30pm Backdate** (48197) **1.00 Sesame Street** (r) (s) (36352)
2.00 Racing from Newmarket. The 2.05 (27062807)
2.25 Conference Report: The Leader's Speech (5522197)
3.45 Racing from Newmarket. The 3.45 (9929371)
4.00 Fifteen to One (1) **4.30 Countdown** (5) **5.00 Ricki Lake** (2066555) **5.45 Travelog Treks** (299178)
6.00 The Avengers (r) (Teletext) (23888)
7.00 Channel 4 News and weather (6371)
8.00 Citizen's Arrest. The traditional way of life of Cornish fishermen is under threat (3/6) (Teletext) (s) (2710)
8.30 Brookside. (Teletext) (s) (6517)
9.00 NEW Witness: School Prayers. (Ceefax) (s) 2555)



The newsroom team (10.00pm)

10.00 NEW Drop the Dead Donkey. The return of the topical comedy (1/12) (Teletext) (s) (248739)
10.35 Whose Line Is It Anyway? (r) (Teletext) (s) (635505)
11.05 FILM: Northern Exposure: Gift of the Maggie. (Teletext) (s) (515333)
12.00 Tommy Davidson. One man comedy show recorded in Philadelphia (130081)
12.40am-3.15 The Shooting Gallery: Piccadilly Circus at Night. Tanya arrives in London to work as an au pair (6821376)
12.55 Code Blue. Australian film from Moira Moss (5249173) **1.10 An Evil Town.** Atmospheric film by Richard Sears (6060753) **1.35 The Girl in the F**K Me Coat.** Film by Munir Ahmed (2824666)
1.45 Hayride to Hell. Kimble Rendall film starring Kylie Minogue (2804802)
2.00 We Three Warriors. A look at the social and cultural identity of three Londoners (8918043)
2.10 Stressed. Animation (8909395) **2.20 Spellbound.** One man's descent into drug addiction (8905579)
2.30 The Ticket. A man takes on a city's bureaucracy (45444) **3.00 Guilty.** A man witnesses a street mugging (*18178840 Ends at 3.15*
4.00 Schools (263111) Ends at 5.45

SATELLITE AND CABLE

● **For more comprehensive listings of satellite and cable channels, see the Vision supplement published Saturday**

SKY ONE

7.00am Undun (62401) **9.00** Press Your Luck (53298635) **9.30** Jeopardy (2429913) **9.45** The Oprah Winfrey Show (3837913) **10.45** Real TV (27559994) **11.10** Sally Jessy Raphael (3653887) **12.00** Geraldo (89468) **1.00pm** 1 to 3 (48975) **3.00** Jenny Jones (61352) **4.00** The Oprah Winfrey Show (77159) **5.00** Quantum Leap (7178) **6.00** The New Adventures of Superman (78952) **7.00** LAPD (8807) **7.30** M*A*S*H (4333) **8.00** Spongnill (7555) **8.30** Murder Unsolved (6062) **9.00** Law and Order (17265) **10.00** Quantum Leap (10352) **11.00** The New Adventures of Superman (82265) **12.00** Midnight Caller (22444) **1.00am** LAPD (71014) **1.30** Real TV (47840) **2.00** Hit Mix Long Play (19043)

SKY 2

7.00pm The Simpsons (1376951) **7.30** Sea Rescue (8232333) **8.00** Skaters (4527975) **9.00** Renegade (4517739) **10.00** New York Undercover (4540826) **11.00** Late Show, with David Letterman (1650604) **12.00 FILM: Young Frankenstein** (2377918) **2.00am** Hit Mix Long Play (3684734)

SKY NEWS

Worldwide news coverage with bulletins on the hour, 24 hours day, seven days a week.

SKY MOVIES

6.00am Pumping Iron II: The Women (1985) (20772) **8.00 Kaleidoscope** (1966) (40791) **10.00 Free Willy** (1993) (71149) **12.00 Ivana Trump's for Love Alone** (1994) (63642) **2.00pm The Aviator** (1985) (59884) **4.00 Mother's Day on Waltons Mountain** (1982) (5710) **6.00 Free Willy** (1993) (21468) **8.00 All She Ever Wanted** (1996) (26913) **10.00 Just Cause** (1995) (399771) **11.45 Serial Mom** (1994) (141178) **1.20 Choices of the Heart: The Margaret Sanger Story** (1994) (5301034) **2.50 Day of Reckoning** (1994) (8190163) **4.20-6.00 Kaleidoscope** (1966) (172395)

THE MOVIE CHANNEL

6.00am Along Came Jones (1945) (37333) **7.30 Willy Fog: 20,000 Leagues Under the Sea** (3072389) **9.35 Mr Horatio Knibbles** (6446284) **10.00 The Big Knife** (1955) (62791) **12.00 Holiday** (1937) (61284) **2.00pm The Big Game** (1995) (59666) **4.00 Mr Horatio Knibbles** (8378197) **5.05 Charles Dickens' Ghost Stories: From the Pickwick Papers** (1987) (5895807) **6.00 Big Dreams and Broken Hearts: The Dottie West Story** (1995) (72975) **7.30 Special Feature: Escape from L.A.** (1541) **8.00 Blown Away** (1994) (24555) **10.00 Digital Man** (1994) (846791) **11.35 Germinal** (1995) (78122804) **2.15am Heaven and Earth** (1993) (68289277) **4.30-6.00 Along Came Jones** (1945) (81531)

SKY MOVIES GOLD

4.00pm A Dog's Life (1918) (9851420) **4.45 Carefree** (1938) (1317886) **5.10 Henry V** (1989) (67830265) **8.30 Android** (1983) (63246) **10.00 Aliens** (1986) (88223062) **12.20 The River** (1984) (84391482) **2.25am To Be or Not to Be** (1983) (5579966) **4.15-5.25 Christmas in July** (1940) (8211260)

THE DISNEY CHANNEL

Sky Movies Gold takes over from 10pm to 4am.
6.00am Bonkers (1554979) **6.25** Mouse Tracks (2009064) **6.50** Darkwing Duck (5780826) **7.15** Quack Attack (6320456) **7.40** Aladdin (4580265) **8.05** Good Troop (6685710) **8.30** Bonkers (50130) **9.00** Mouse Tracks (74710) **9.30** Lamb Chops Play Along! (88401) **10.00** Muppet Babies (64420) **10.30** Adventures in Wonderland (70994) **11.00** Quack Attack (64623) **11.30** Under the Umbrella Tree (65352) **12.00** Fraggle Rock (61246) **12.30pm** Lamb Chops Play Along! (99517) **1.00** Good Troop (11826) **1.30** Aladdin (98888) **2.00** Darkwing Duck (1791) **2.30** Best of Walt Disney Presents (1981352) **3.25** Mouse Tracks (6170772) **3.50** Darkwing Duck (2467823) **4.15** Bonkers (2477352) **4.35** Good Troop (8706230) **5.00** Aladdin (53711) **5.30** Okavango (1284) **6.00** Crossbow (8197) **6.30** Blossom (9449) **7.00** Home Improvement (2807) **7.30 FILM: Back to Hannibal: The Return of Tom Sawyer and Huckleberry** (66710) **9.00** Eyewitness (51159) **9.30-10.00** Home Improvement

SKY SPORTS 1

7.00am Sky Sports Centre (19333) **7.30** This Week in Baseball (38488) **8.00** World of Speed and Beauty (37265) **8.30** Racing News (36536) **9.00** Sky Sports Centre (27888) **9.30** Aerobics (84807) **10.00** Spanish Football (77371) **12.00** Aerobics (30352) **12.30pm** Ford Monday Night Football (83284) **2.30** Tartan Extra (9284) **3.00** WDC World Darts Championship (14159) **4.59** Sky Sports Centre (8843130) **5.00** World Wrestling Federation — Mania (3994) **6.00** Sky Sports Centre (3520) **8.30** The World of Thee Feet (1265) **7.00** Women's Golf: German Open (42975) **7.59** Sky Sports Centre (280536) **8.00** Ringside Boxing on the Road — Live (82738) **10.00** Sky Sports Centre (31081) **10.30** The Footballers' Football Show (83285) **11.30** Asian Football Show (38736) **12.30am** Sky Sports Centre (47192) **1.00** The World at Their Feet (43550) **1.30** Women's Golf: German Open (94531) **2.30-3.00** Sky Sports Centre (73376)

SKY SPORTS 3

12.00 Sports Unlimited (71574772) **1.00pm** NFL (55285401) **2.30** Major League Baseball (77312420) **4.00** Watersports World (27488371) **5.00** Asian Golf Show (92432265) **6.00** Sports Unlimited (71503284) **7.00** Sky Sports Centre (92433994) **7.30** NFL (97026130) **9.00** Major League Baseball (27485284) **10.30** Sports Unlimited (56537091) **11.30-12.00** Sky Sports Centre (77448401)

EUROSPORT

7.30am Indycar (65130) **9.00** Speedworld (47541) **11.00** Football (32284) **12.00** Duathlon (72826) **1.00pm** Triathlon (58246) **2.00** Cycling (12791) **3.30** All Sports (6197) **4.00** Darts (27771) **5.00** Strength (8082) **6.00** Four-Wheels (61710) **7.00** Body Building (60371) **8.00** Boxing — Live (57807) **10.00** Football (69842) **11.00-12.30am** Snooker (55054)

GRANADA PLUS

6.00am Runway **6.30** Sounds Like a Story **6.45** Time for a Story **7.00** Alphabet Zoo **7.15** Sounds Like a Story **7.30** The Ghosts of Motley Hall **8.00** Classic Coronation Street Special **8.30** Runway **9.00** Families **9.30** Crown Court Special **10.00** World in Action **10.30** Poor Little Rich Girls **11.00** Medics **12.00** A Fine Romance **12.30pm** Classic Coronation Street Special **1.00** Crown Court Special **1.30** Families **2.00** A Piece of Cake **3.00** Poor Little Rich Girls **3.30** Seven Up in the USSR **4.00** The Charmer **5.15** Families **6.00** The Grumbleweeds Radio Show **8.30** Classic Coronation Street Special **7.00** Crown Court Special **7.30** A Fine Romance **8.00** Medics **9.00** Classic Coronation Street Special **9.25** Classic Coronation Street **10.00-11.00** The Charmer
From 11.00pm-2.00am Men and Motors

GRANADA GOOD LIFE

From 6.00am-9.00 TV High Street. Includes consumer news and features and Your Stars presented by Russell Grant
From 9.00-12.00 Food and Wine. Includes recipes and ideas from Delia Smith
From 12.00-3.00pm Health and Beauty. Includes Diet and Fitness with Rosemary Conley
From 3.00-6.00 Home and Garden. Includes The Good Life Style Guide

THE HISTORY CHANNEL

4.00pm Biography (8923888) **5.00** The Red Empire (2281826) **6.00** The World at War (3078081) **7.00-8.00** Biography (8478559)

THE SCI-FI CHANNEL

Films, features and classic series every day from 8pm-4am Monday to Wednesday and 1am-4am Thursday to Sunday on satellite, and from 8am-4am every day on cable
8.00pm Steven Spielberg's Amazing Stories (2268975) **8.30** Steven Spielberg's Amazing Stories (22707010) **9.00** Starman (8474739) **10.00** The New Edge (7881828) **10.30** C/Net Central (7867246) **11.00** Friday the 13th (9915604) **12.00** The Incredible Hulk (3547335) **1.00am** Tales of the Unexpected (61009956) **1.30** New Alfred Hitchcock Presents (3100734) **2.00** Night Gallery (3129889) **3.00** Friday the 13th (6051821) **3.55-4.00** Quarks (16235208)

Kenneth Branagh in Henry V (Sky Movies Gold, 6.10pm)

TLC/DISCOVERY

9.00am The Joy of Painting (7717517) **9.30** The Garden Show (9353933) **10.00** Two's Country (4993536) **10.30** Home Again, with Bob Vila (7706401) **11.00** Furniture to Go (5390371) **11.30** Room Service (5358772) **12.00** Julia Child (7720081) **12.30pm** Graham Kerr (1258569) **1.00** Yan Can Cook (7388371) **1.30** Home Again with Bob Vila (6103410) **2.00** Hometime (8398449) **2.30** Garden Club (5004449) **3.00** Rex Hunt's Fishing Adventures (8300284) **3.30-4.00** This Old House (5009994)
From 4.00pm-Midnight DISCOVERY as below.
4.00pm Rex Hunt's Fishing Adventures (5068401) **4.30** Bush Tucker Man (5017913) **5.00** Time Travellers (8372401) **5.30** Jurassica 2 (5008255) **6.00** Beyond 2000 (4103230) **7.00** Wild Things: Amur Leopard (8362265) **7.30** Mysteries, Magic and Miracles (5018642) **8.00** Flood: Azimuth (2557807) **9.00** Russia's War (2560371) **10.00** Battleship (2530130) **11.00-12.00** Best of British (7365420)

UK GOLD

7.00am Lassie (7358130) **7.30** Give Us A Clue (7377265) **8.00** Neighbours (5348284) **8.25** EastEnders (6825807) **9.00** The Bill (7719975) **9.30** The Sullivans (7553951) **10.00** Angels (7373449) **11.00** Bullseye (5359401) **11.30** Sale of the Century (5350130) **12.00** Tellystack (7738739) **12.30pm** Neighbours (9456587) **1.00** EastEnders (1881710) **1.35** Shelley (1250975) **2.20** For the Love of Ada (63643555) **2.50** It Ain't Half Hot, Mum (9730772) **3.30** The Bill (5001352) **4.00** Casualty (5373081) **5.00** Bullseye (8381159) **5.30** George and Mildred (5000623) **6.00** Tellystack (5007536) **6.30** EastEnders (5847772) **7.05** The Bob Monkhouse Show (4886826) **8.00** Funny You Ask (8303371) **8.30** Executive Stress (8399178) **9.00** The Sweeney (2539401) **10.00** Taggart (39363130) **11.05** The Bill (9225555) **11.40** The Equalizer (3810082) **12.35am FILM: Gregory's Girl** (2509208) **2.10** Shopping (27015647)

TCC

6.00am Swan's Crossing (9859541) **6.20** Meltdown: Teenage Urban Adventures (5059388) **6.45** Degrassi Junior High (464623) **7.15** Ready or Not (461536) **7.45** California Dreams (460807) **8.15** Sweet Valley High (616159) **8.45** Art Attack (8035888) **9.00** Tiny TCC (Until 3.00pm): Tiny and Crew (9251178) **9.20** Mr Benn (9264642) **9.40** Teddy Trucks (4258823) **9.50** Towser (4254807) **10.00** 10+2 (7118130) **10.20** The Clangers (8949791) **10.40** Bertha (3353284) **11.00** Dinobabies (77197) **11.30** Jim Henson's Animal Show (78826) **12.00** Barney (67420) **12.20pm** Oscar's Orchestra (95791) **1.00** Casper and Friends (84772) **1.30** Tiny and Crew (45892807) **1.55** Mr Benn (77651826) **2.20** Towser (93330517) **2.40** Bertha (9446420) **3.00** Degrassi Junior High (3772) **3.30** Ready or Not (2159) **4.00** California Dreams (4394) **4.30-5.00** Sweet Valley High (9998)

NICKELODEON

6.00am Teenage Mutant Hero Turtles (22994) **8.30** Blue Mice from Mars (95888) **7.00** Rocko's Modern Life (1815611) **7.15** Hey Arnold (8795710) **7.30** Rugrats (29710) **8.00** Doug (35807) **8.30** Aaahh!!! Real Monsters (34178) **9.00** Where in the World Is Carmen Sandiego? (18130) **9.30** Wishbone (62449) **10.00** Bananas in Pyjamas (4596081) **10.10** Katie and Orbie (8180307) **10.35** Mr Men (8502642) **10.40** Will Quack Quack (8598555) **10.45** Bananas in Pyjamas (6119420) **11.00** BBC Block (51230) **12.00** Clarissa Explains It All (38994) **12.30pm** Sister Sister (66265) **1.00** Babar (16246) **1.30** Littlest Pet Shop (65538) **2.00** Little Bear Stories (8449) **2.30** BBC Block (46333) **3.30** Aaahh!!! Real Monsters (2371) **4.00** Hey Arnold (8176) **4.30** Rugrats (3018523) **4.45** Doug (8068028) **5.00** Sister Sister (2401) **5.30** Moesha (1642) **6.00** Space Cases (8555) **6.30-7.00** Are You Afraid of the Dark? (9807)

PARAMOUNT

7.00pm Different Strokes (2265) **7.30** Benson (8791) **8.00** Due South (1913) **8.30** Due South (4820) **9.00** Soap (19159) **9.30** Taxi (45401) **10.00** Et Uk (356823) **10.30** Dr Katz (48371) **11.00** Nightstand (16604) **11.30** Nightstand (98362) **12.00** Sledgehammer (85840) **12.30am** Nuts in the Hall (45734) **1.00** Due South (41792) **1.30** Due South (98588) **2.00** Et Uk (85111) **2.30** Dr Katz (71918) **3.00** Nightstand (61956) **3.30-4.00am** Nightstand (95998)

BRAVO

12.00 Fantasy Island (6903212) **1.00pm** Remington Steele (4280220) **2.00** The New Avengers (4981797) **3.00** Land of the Giants (5389642) **4.00 FILM: The World of Henry Orient** (8308828) **6.00** Thunderbirds (6208064) **7.00** Monkey (2566913) **8.00** Remington Steele (2544233) **9.00** Starsky and Hutch (2564197) **10.00-12.00 FILM: Tommy



AMERICAN FOOTBALL 47
Victory pulls Green Bay clear of chasing pack

SPORT

GOLF 49
Johnson sets course record on way to triumph in US



Dutchman could face legal action

Van Hooijdonk claims denied by angry Celtic

By Kevin McCarra

CELTIC publicly attacked one of their own players yesterday. Pierre van Hooijdonk was left out of the squad for the weekend defeat by Rangers after an argument with Tommy Burns, the manager. Fergus McCann, the club's chief executive, has now denied Van Hooijdonk's version of events in a disagreement whose origins lie in a contractual dispute.

According to McCann, Van Hooijdonk, from Holland, has told Celtic that he wants a transfer unless his earnings are increased, even though 21 months of his present deal still remain. The club will give him such a rise only if he agrees to extend the contract. Burns also said that Van Hooijdonk had expressed an eagerness to move to Feyenoord at the end of last season.

He has also been accused of breaches of discipline that include failure to play in a testimonial match, to warm up for a game when instructed, and to take part in charitable and commercial engagements. "I don't want young players looking at that kind of behaviour and wondering how he gets away with it," Burns said.

Celtic have not ruled out the possibility of legal action against Van Hooijdonk for breach of contract, but the possibility of reconciliation remains. "He must learn humility," Burns said. "I can have a stand-up fight with someone, but then we can put our hands together and go on."

The club is willing to sell the player if differences cannot be resolved, but there are few Dutch clubs who would be willing to meet the transfer fee of around £3 million that Celtic would seek. Burns observed that, even without the dispute, Van Hooijdonk would have been only a substitute at the Old Firm match.

Klinsmann cornered 48
Managers meet 48

While the player's position is uncertain, that of another man has been clarified. Alex Miller's association with Hibernian succumbed to exhaustion yesterday. After ten years at Easter Road, he resigned his post yesterday, having found that his position was untenable. An embarrassing 3-1 defeat at home by Heart of Midlothian, in the Edinburgh derby on Saturday, intensified the growing dissatisfaction with Miller.

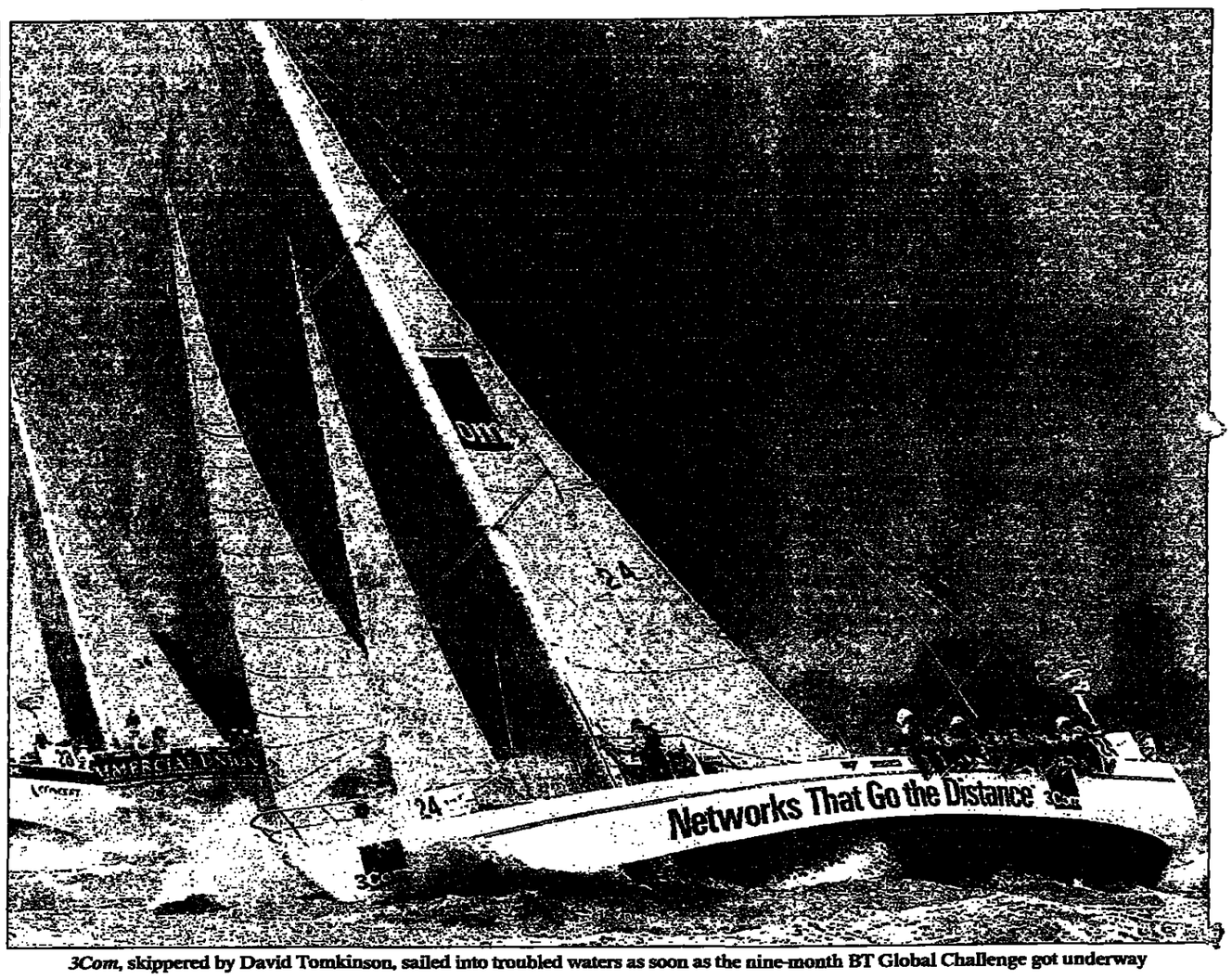
While a majority of the board continued to support him, the division among directors may have been enough to prompt Miller's decision. He also works as assistant to Craig Brown, the Scotland manager, and it is thought that Hibernian would not have been prepared to let him spend a week away from his club job while with the national team at the forthcoming World Cup qualifiers in Latvia and Estonia.

Douglas Cromb, the Hibernian chairman, had been the most fervent advocate of Miller and he praised the work of the manager, who ensured stability on the field during the period in which the club went into receivership before finding new owners in 1991. "Alex stuck by the club in the darkest days and even turned down jobs overseas when he didn't know what the future was," he said. "He rallied the players here."

Miller also won the Skol Cup in 1991 and the results alone do not suggest a crisis at present, since Hibernian are only a point away from third place in the Bell's Scottish League premier division. Supporters, however, have wearied of Miller and bemoaned the drabness of his team. However, the manager's departure may expose deeper causes of the mediocrity.

Discussing Miller's successor, Cromb said: "We have to find out who has got a contract and who has not." Clearly, the club is unwilling, or unable, to pay compensation to secure a manager successfully employed elsewhere. Anyone taking up the position may wonder if there will be sufficient funds available to transform the squad.

Ray Wilkins, on a month's contract with Hibernian as a player, is an obvious candidate for the post, but he has already indicated that he has no wish to live in Scotland. Hibernian may also consider Alex Smith, who recently resigned at Clyde, and Steve Archibald, a former player at Easter Road who was dismissed as East Fife's manager earlier this season.



3Com, skippered by David Tomkinson, sailed into troubled waters as soon as the nine-month BT Global Challenge got underway

Fax almost spoils story for Tomkinson

By Edward Gorman
Sailing Correspondent

A YACHT in the BT Global Challenge came within a whisker of being disqualified yesterday — less than 24 hours after the start of the nine-month race — after it received illegal weather routing information as it made its way down the Needles Channel.

The yacht, *3Com*, skippered by David Tomkinson, was sent a long and detailed message via Portishead Radio, surveying all the options on which way to go out of the Solent, then how to tackle the English Channel and the all-important tactical decision on how to get past the Azores high-pressure system.

The information was compiled by Giles Trollope, who has been assisting Tomkinson and Warren Walker, his navigator, on routing, and the message amounted to his final thoughts before the start on Sunday. However, the information reached a horrified Tomkinson about four hours after the gun, as *3Com* was well on her way out into the English Channel.

The race organisers were immediately alerted by Tomkinson, who was terrified that two years of training plus the hard-earned backing of his sponsor, Concert — a British Telecom subsidiary in America — was all about to be wasted after just one night at sea.

Initially, Adrian Rayson, the Challenge race office manager, warned Trollope that what he called his "unsolicited" message to the *3Com* had put its "race status in jeopardy and might lead to its disqualification for receiving outside assistance".

Chay Blyth, the race director, then stepped in and ordered that the message, originally intended for Tomkinson's eyes only, be transmitted to the entire fleet, to ensure that there was no unfair advantage to *3Com*. The problem arose because Portishead did not send the fax for several hours and the delay was further compounded because the radio officers also omitted to transmit a note at the top confirming that the information had been sent before the start of the race and had not been amended since, in accordance with the rules.

BT Global Challenge

Latest positions 48
Emotional farewell 50

Tomkinson appears to have been reprieved, though whether any of his fellow skippers will raise the issue at a later date remains to be seen. Under the race rules, the yachts are not allowed any information after the start apart from that which is conveyed to all of them from the race office, plus anything they pick up on their way round in the form of "all stations" broadcasts.

One of the skippers' biggest worries, and something that they tried to sort out before they left Southampton on Sunday, was what would happen if they inadvertently received information which could amount to illegal outside assistance. Nobody could have foreseen how quickly such a situation would arise.

Out on the course, meanwhile, the fleet endured an unpleasant first night at sea in the southwesterly gale. Yesterday the 14 yachts were spread over 33 miles on their way to Ushant, with the lead being disputed by Mike Golding, on *Group 4*, and Simon Walker, on *Toshiba Wave Warrior*, who each had around 4,900 miles to go to Rio de Janiero.

Many of the volunteer crews have been suffering from seasickness and, in some cases, wondering why they have paid to go through such uncomfortable conditions. A message to race headquarters from *Group 4* summed it up — "After an emotional and exciting start to the race, most crew members are suffering from the effects of rough weather and many are seeing Saturday's dinner again.

"We're slowly settling into watch systems and duties on board, but everything seems to take twice as long as it should with breaks to take air and visit the heads.

"There was lots of groaning overnight and bodies splayed on deck. Although there is not much chat, I think we are united in our thoughts — have we really got 30,000 miles to go and have we actually paid to do this?"

Souness signs striker

SOUTHAMPTON yesterday signed Egil Ostenstadt, 24, the Norway striker, from Viking Stavanger for £900,000. He completed the deal after agreeing personal terms and passing a medical at The Dell. Ostenstadt has scored four goals in four internationals for Norway and 23 goals in 24 matches for his club.

Graeme Souness, the Southampton manager, said: "He is a big strong lad with a great goalscoring record and could be just what we need up front." Souness will also finalise a £1.2 million move for Eyal Berkowitz, the Israel midfield player, from Maccabi Haifa when his work permit is confirmed. Southampton expect both to play in their next FA Carling Premiership match, away to Coventry City on Sunday week.

£5m Cole bid kept on back burner

By David Maddock

ANDY COLE, a footballing outcast with Manchester United despite a transfer fee that, at £7 million, was a British record, will be denied, at least temporarily, the opportunity to resurrect his career with Everton.

Joe Royle, the Everton manager, is determined to bring a new forward to Goodison Park before the team plays again, in ten days' time, after long-term injuries to his striking partnership of Duncan Ferguson and Paul Rideout.

Cole is his primary target and Everton have returned to Old Trafford with the suggestion of an improved offer after failing with a £4.5 million bid for the player during the summer, when it appeared that Alan Shearer was Manchester-bound.

Cole, however, will not be allowed to move until the Christmas period at the earliest, even though he has clearly fallen behind Ole Gunnar Solskjaer in the pecking order of forwards at the club.

It is now accepted at boardroom level that United will ultimately be forced to sell Cole in an attempt to cut their losses after his failure to secure a regular first-team place. Alex Ferguson, the manager, has decided, however, that he cannot sell the player while United are still engaged in the European Cup Champions' League. Cole is his only realistic cover for Solskjaer, signed during the summer from Molde, of Norway.

Ferguson admitted yesterday that Solskjaer was now firmly ahead of Cole in his thinking. "How can you ignore Ole's goals," he said. "He picks himself scoring that way."



Cole: Everton target

His dilemma is that any new signing to replace Cole will be eligible only for the quarter-finals of the European Cup, should United qualify, in March.

A senior figure at the club admitted privately yesterday that Ferguson would be asked if he wanted to sell Cole now to Everton, but a more likely scenario — given the close relationship between the clubs — is that Royle will be offered first refusal should the player become available in December.

Royle will then still have the funds to meet United's asking price of around £5 million, even though he is likely to act in the short term to resolve his forward line problems. Everton had a £2 million bid for Uwe Rösler, of Manchester City, rejected last weekend.

The beleaguered City board indicated yesterday, however, that, if the offer was increased to £3 million, it would accept. Royle will table such a bid on his return to Merseyside today, with the deal likely to be completed by the weekend. The prospect remains of Cole making a similar journey from Manchester by the turn of the year.

Frankie fever spreads to high places

By Richard Evans
Racing Correspondent

THE QUEEN let it be known yesterday that she was as thrilled as everyone else in the land, John Major will pass on his congratulations in person at 10 Downing Street on Thursday, and Ascot is already thinking how it can best commemorate the sporting achievement of the year.

Frankie Dettori fever, it would appear, knows no bounds and, just to keep the pot boiling, the charismatic jockey is set to ride his hundredth winner of the season at Newmarket today after donning the royal silks and moving to 99 with Sabina at Bath yesterday. However, the worldwide fame that has flowed from riding the winners of all seven races at Ascot on Saturday — yesterday he was made joint-favourite with Steve Redgrave and Damon Hill to be voted BBC sports personality of the year — will not go to his head. He has more important things on his mind, such as which horse will he ride in the Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe on Sunday?

A year ago, after triumphing on Lammtarra, he won over the hearts of French racegoers with a trademark leap from the saddle in the winner's enclosure at Longchamp. For much of this summer, he has been dreaming of a repeat performance from the back of Classic Cliché, the winner of the Ascot Gold Cup.

The horse possesses all the right qualities, but has been disappointing on the gallops of late and, yesterday, Ladbrokes removed the four-year-old from the betting in the belief that he would not run.

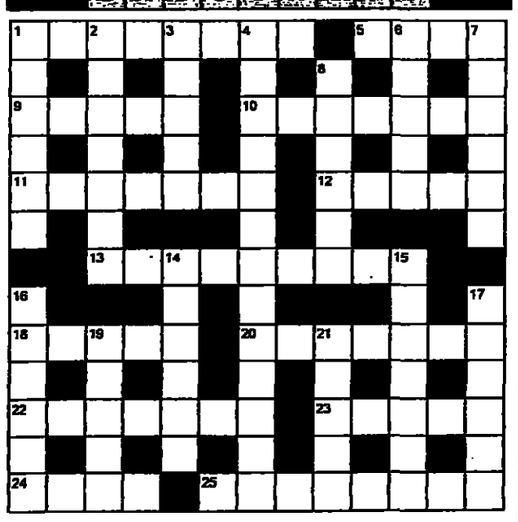
By last night, the bookmakers were anticipating that Dettori would partner Swain, trained by André Fabre and owned by Sheikh Mohammed, and, significantly, Swain's price was cut from 6-1 to 9-2 by Ladbrokes.

In contrast to the glamour of the Arc weekend in Paris and an invitation to a Downing Street reception hosted by the Prime Minister on Thursday, Dettori enjoyed a relatively quiet day at Bath yesterday. However, his first-race victory afforded an opportunity for the Queen's views on the jockey's historic achievement to be made known. "She was just as thrilled as everybody else," Lord Carnarvon, the Queen's racing manager, reported.

Ascot racecourse is already considering the best way to commemorate Dettori's world record. A statue or a race named in his honour are two possibilities.

Arc doubt, page 45

TIMES TWO CROSSWORD



No 901

ACROSS
1 Fashionable, modern (2-2-4)
5 A pig; a security (4)
9 Eskimo canoe (5)
10 One-horned myth. beast (7)
11 Went in (7)
12 Herb, sounds like *period* (5)
13 Iniquitous (9)
18 Horrify (5)
20 Finished; by means of (7)
22 Wine-producing estate (7)
23 Conductor's stick (5)
24 Body of water; English District (4)
25 Shaven-skull hooligan (8)

DOWN
1 Maintenance (6)
2 Test authority limits (3,2,2)
3 Capital of Senegal (5)
4 Utterly astonished (13)
6 Mild sarcasm (5)
7 Underground passage (6)
8 Small restaurant (6)
14 Catcher of impurities (6)
15 Deliberately sink (ship) (7)
16 Wrapped package (6)
17 Rang up (6)
19 Length of cut wood (5)
21 Garden songbird (5)

SOLUTION TO NO 900

ACROSS: 1 Public 4 Verbal 8 Crew 9 Mot juste 10 First Lady 13 Mummy 15 Adore 16 Mated 18 Irritable 21 Terrific 22 Gang 23 Cogent 24 Reject

DOWN: 1 Pacify 2 Beetroot 3 Camel 5 Enjoyment 6 Busk 7 Leeway 11 Tradition 12 Amour 14 Membrane 16 Mystic 17 Weight 19 Incur 20 Frog

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